



Daily Report

Latin America

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Tuesday
13 June 1989

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Foreign Ministers 8-9 June Meeting Postponed
PA0806000589 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2259 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Guatemala, 7 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—The Guatemalan Foreign Ministry today announced the postponement of the meeting of area foreign ministers in view of Foreign Minister Mario Palencia's commitments. The meeting had been scheduled to be held in Guatemala City on 8 and 9 June.

An official spokesperson told ACAN-EFE that Palencia was part of the OAS mission that sought to mediate the Panamanian crisis caused by the annulment of the 7 May elections. The OAS mission received an extension of its mandate until 19 July yesterday in Washington.

Sergio Casasola of the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry press office, said that Palencia, together with the foreign ministers of Trinidad and Tobago and Ecuador, will go to Panama again from 10 to 15 June.

"This is the main reason for postponing the meeting of the executive commission composed of Central American ministers and those who will analyze the document approved by the deputy foreign ministers for demobilizing the contras based in Honduras," he added.

Casasola noted that Guatemala will propose that the foreign ministers meeting be held during the second half of June, before the presidential summit scheduled for mid-July in Honduras.

Mexican Foreign Secretary Address on Panama
PA1106191489 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
DOMINICAL in Spanish 11 Jun 89 pp 1, 8-A

[Speech by Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana at 2d session of 21st consultative meeting of OAS foreign ministers in Washington on 6 June]

[Text] We have carefully analyzed the report presented by the mission of foreign ministers of Ecuador, Guatemala, and Trinidad and Tobago, who were assisted by the OAS secretary general, in their trip to Panama in fulfillment of Resolution 1 of 17 May. We are very pleased by the mission's brilliant diplomatic efforts. The meetings the foreign ministers held with all of Panama's social groups lead us to view with optimism the willingness of those groups to peacefully solve their problems through political formulas based on freely agreed upon mutual concessions.

My delegation is pleased with the cooperation the foreign ministers' mission received from the Panamanian Government and the various Panamanian political groups. In its diplomatic efforts, the mission carefully fulfilled its objective of contributing to national reconciliation and agreement. At no time did it become an instrument of pressure or interference, nor did it distort the functions and duties of the OAS.

The mission was at all times respectful of the Panamanian people's sovereign right to decide, with strict autonomy, their domestic political affairs. Its efforts have been very useful in strengthening the spirit of unity, dialogue, and cooperation among our countries. Mexico supported the proposal, which was approved by consensus on 17 May, to appoint this special mission because Panama opened its doors to it and because of the desire to contribute, while respecting the principle of nonintervention, toward opening opportunities for negotiations that will make possible the solution of the conflict.

Mr President: Maintaining the full validity of the Panama Canal treaties is an issue of interest to the entire international community and something that must elicit our attention.

For my delegation, faithful fulfillment of the 1977 Panama Canal treaties, "which includes turning over the canal to Panama's exclusive control in 1999," is of vital importance. The terms and conditions of the treaties must remain untouched. The current circumstances cannot contravene the objectives of the treaties. These agreements were the result of a spirit of understanding between two sovereign countries and must not be violated or placed in doubt because of situations caused by individual actions.

Mr President: In the OAS Charter, all member states promise to promote representative democracy, ideological pluralism, and the international protection of human rights. It is difficult to serve democracy in a nation by imposing solutions from abroad. Not only does the principle of nonintervention interpose itself but it is socially impossible to impose solutions. Democracy cannot emanate from one country's domination of another, from an economic blockade, or through the isolation of a nation. It can neither be exported nor imposed. Democracy must be built and experienced within each community. It must emerge and develop from the characteristics, history, and traditions of each country. There is no democracy without autonomy. Its very essence is found in self-determination.

Democracy entails a de jure system and the autonomy of political processes. It requires social justice and a favorable, just, and equitable international environment in which there can be international cooperation for development. Even a superficial overview of the situation in Panama in recent weeks must include recognition of the fact that as time passes, life in the country is returning to normal. The efforts of the special mission contributed to cooling passions and convincing the political sectors that they must act on the basis of dialogue and negotiation, abandoning unyielding positions of force.

We must maintain the effort undertaken by the mission. Therefore, my delegation believes it is advisable that the mandate of the foreign ministers' mission be extended as

proposed by the report and in agreement with Panama so it can contribute to the achievement of formulas of agreement by the Panamanian people.

In this additional effort of reconciliation, the special OAS mission will continue to defend, as it has done to date, strict respect for nonintervention and the free self-determination of peoples. This is also a new opportunity to show that the OAS can be a forum for cooperation and open and respectful dialogue among the nations of the continent.

Ecuadoran Foreign Minister on Panama 'Crisis'

PA1106233689 Hamburg DPA in Spanish
2209 GMT 11 Jun 89

[Text] Panama City, 11 Jun (DPA)—Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, member of an OAS commission to foster political understanding in Panama, arrived in this capital saying that both domestic and foreign factors must be taken into account in resolving the Panamanian crisis.

Cordovez was asked whether the United States should take part in the talks designed to overcome the Panamanian situation. He said: "I believe that there are outside factors that you experience and that cannot be ignored; it is important that they be taken into account."

Cordovez said that the OAS mission, which includes Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Palencia, Trinidad and Tobago Foreign Minister Sahadeo Basdeo, and OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares, will remain in Panama 2 to 3 days and plans to again meet the groups with which it held talks during the previous visit.

The Ecuadoran foreign minister warned that the mission does not have magic formulas to resolve all of Panama's problems.

Cordovez said: "We have come as a goodwill gesture; we cannot make proposals. Perhaps we shall suggest ideas based on experiences elsewhere. It is the Panamanians who must find solutions based on discussions."

Cordovez said that, during the previous visit, he found a political willingness by all groups, which must translate into specific steps. Most urgent now is the need to establish mechanisms that will allow Panamanians to talk and negotiate the situation.

Diego Cordovez did not say whether the commission's agenda includes encouraging direct talks between General Manuel Antonio Noriega and opposition leaders.

Cuba

Solis Palma Ends Official Visit in Havana
FL1206113589 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Communist Party of Cuba Councils of State and Ministers, bid farewell to Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency of the Republic of Panama. Solis Palma was effecting a friendly and working visit to Cuba. Also present at the airport were other state and mass organization leaders.

Before leaving, the distinguished guest and his accompanying delegation visited the Los Naranjos Genetic-Livestock Enterprise in Havana Province. Accompanied by our nation's agriculture minister [Adolfo Diaz Suarez] and Jose Gonzalez Torres, director of the facilities, the guests toured the livestock center where they were shown part of the installation, as well as specimens of cattle and water buffalos.

Gonzalez Torres gave the delegation an explanation about the center's characteristics. The center is mainly devoted to breeding studs for artificial insemination and for the genetic crosses of cattle, sheep, goats, and water buffalos.

The visit concluded at the water buffalo milking area and the goat artificial insemination area of Dagame.

Speaks to Press Before Leaving

FL1206130289 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Manuel Solis Palma, president of Panama, yesterday returned to his country after finishing an official 3-day visit to Cuba. President Fidel Castro said farewell at the airport to the Panamanian leader and his accompanying delegation.

Before boarding the plane, our reporter Gisela Arandia spoke with the Panamanian leader.

[Begin recording] [Arandia] Excuse me sir, you are going to leave in a few minutes and I would like you to say something for Cuban radio. What do you think about this visit?

[Solis Palma] I think it has been very enlightening. For me, it has been very educational and it has shown me the reality Cuba is experiencing in its extraordinary development process which it is doing with, I would say, an orientation and reinforcement of the Cuban Revolution which should be known by many countries.

They live in a system of constant disinformation which discredits systems, work methods, and consciences of nations. I think that this has been a great advantage for me and I think we are going to transfer it to the nation,

especially the plans which are applicable and note a substantial change in thought, dynamics and have that faith to move the country forward.

[Arandia] Thank you. [end recording]

Castro 'Understands' Panamanian Situation
FL1206115489 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Today Panama's president, Manuel Solis Palma, said that the lifting of economic sanctions and other pressures by the United States against Panama is the main way to reach a negotiated agreement between Panamanians.

Upon speaking to the press after returning from a visit to Cuba, Solis Palma said that the first thing the country needs for this agreement is national tranquillity. The Panamanian leader added that his country will not accept the unilateral intervention by another nation unless Panama asks that nation to be an arbitrator.

The United States has never shown to have the conditions necessary to be arbitrator because it is very partial, said Solis Palma. In turn, he assured that Panama accepts the OAS participation as a regional organization that is looking for a point of agreement among Panamanians.

Later, the Panamanian leader termed his visit to Cuba as excellent. During this visit, Solis Palma held meetings with President Fidel Castro Ruz and visited health, educational, and economic centers. He explained that the Cuban leader perfectly understands the Panamanian situation because Cuba has been subjected to U.S. blockades and aggressions for 30 years.

PRC's Qian Qichen Concludes Official Visit
FL1206124289 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] After an official visit that lasted several days, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen has returned to the PRC. The official was bid farewell to at the airport by his Cuban counterpart, Isidoro Malmierca.

Qichen held official talks with President Fidel Castro and other Cuban authorities.

Before leaving, Qichen expressed his satisfaction with the results of the visit.

Namibian Repatriation To Begin 12 June
FL0906153789 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1418 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] (Geoffrey Sabiti), representative from the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, said that the first 1,500 repatriated Namibians will travel to Ding Hoi on Monday [12 June] and another 41,000 Namibians will return in stages.

In an interview granted to the Zimbabwe newspaper, THE HERALD, (Sabiti) said that this statistic does not include officials and combatants of the peoples organization known as the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO, who are the responsibility of the UN General Secretary's office.

The official said that the repatriation via air transportation will cost about \$71 million. He stressed that the Namibians will be received in the areas of Ding Hoi, Grootfontein, and Ondangwa. They will later be transported to their points of origin, he said.

The repatriation of the exiled Namibians, which was to begin last 15 May, was delayed due to South Africa's refusal to eliminate laws that discriminated against the SWAPO.

Repatriation Flights Begin

FL1206160989 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1402 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Today, Monday [12 June], the first 625 Namibians will return to their country from Luanda after spending several decades of forced exile in Angola to free themselves of South African racism.

The Namibian refugees will return to their fatherland under the protection of a general amnesty signed by the authorities of South African apartheid and the United Nations as part of the plan to attain Namibia's independence.

The group of Namibians that will leave Luanda today is made up of people who, for years, resided in Viana, Cuanza Sul Province, just 20 km from the Angolan capital and in Guilo, in the southern part of Angola.

Reports from the office of the UN high commissioner for refugees say that some 30,000 Namibians who reside in Zambia will also gather in Angola for later repatriation to their country.

UN Resolution 435 for the independence of Namibia establishes that the repatriation of the Namibian refugees will be carried out from Angola via air lifts that will fly from Luanda and Lubongo to three Namibian cities. The UN Transition Assistance Group [UNTAG] has created the necessary conditions required for those who will be returning—estimated to be 40,000—to Namibia within a 6-week period.

The first group of Namibians to leave Angola today will do so in four planes. Two of the planes will be loaded with passengers and the other two will be loaded with their belongings. It has been reported that some 20,000 old people and children will be left in Angola. These people are not able to care for themselves and will be moved to their nation when the new government is established after the November elections.

The Namibian refugees who today begin to return to their fatherland from Angola will be permitted to stay at the UN concentration centers for 7 days. This is to make it easier for them to locate their relatives and to later be transferred to their residential areas. The UN commission for Namibia's transition to independence has also committed itself to supply the returning refugees with food until the refugees begin to work. In case it becomes difficult for the Namibians to find employment, UN assistance will last for a year with the support of the Namibian Council of Churches.

A nine-member delegation from Namibia's national liberation movement, SWAPO [South West African People's Organization], headed by Central Committee member Dr (Nike Ijambo), will preside over the first group of refugees that will return to their homeland today.

Cooperation Meeting With Romania Set for 12 June

FL0906204889 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1957 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] An integral analysis to carry out cooperation plans in the furniture sector and the remodeling and expansion of the Jose Merceron cement factory, among other subjects, will be covered by the eighth Cuba-Romania joint meeting for economic and scientific-technical cooperation.

This meeting will begin next Monday in Havana and will encompass subjects, such as Romania's support in the production of tires and springs for vehicles, as well as in the remodeling of a mechanical combine.

Also to be discussed in the Cuba-Romania economic cooperation meeting will be chemistry, light industry, tourism, food industry, and agriculture. These plans will be for the next 5-year period.

Economic and scientific-technical relations have existed between Cuba and Romania since 1960, when the first commercial agreement was signed. During the past two lustrums, cooperation has increased.

Vice President Inaugurates Meeting

FL1206222589 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 2033 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Antonio Esquivel, vice president of the Council of Ministers and chief of the Cuban delegation attending the eighth session of the Joint Cuba-Romania Commission for Economic, Scientific-Technical Cooperation today said: We will fulfill our mandate of expanding and developing trade relations at the level of bilateral political ties. After inaugurating the session, Esquivel stressed that we should make a great effort to achieve the goals set forth by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro and Nicolae Ceausescu the top leaders of Cuba and Romania.

5-Year Plans Discussed

FL1306030689 Havana Television Service in Spanish
0000 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] To expand and define economic, scientific-technical cooperation in important industrial projects is one of the goals of the eighth Cuban-Romanian joint commission.

The two delegations exchanged views on the results of cooperation during this 5-year period. They analyzed, among other things, the expansion of the Jose Merceron cement factory in Santiago de Cuba, the construction of a meat combine, and trade in the furniture industry. The delegates also examined other industrial goals for the next 5-year period in the chemical, agriculture, construction materials, mechanical, and light industries. During the talks, it was also reported that the Socialist Republic of Romania is jointly participating with other CEMA-member countries in the construction of the Camaroicas nickel plant in Moa.

Bilateral cooperation began in October 1960. Romania provides raw material, fuel, lubricants, food, and, primarily, equipment and machinery for industry and services.

The Romanian delegation is headed by Lina Ciobanu, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party and first prime minister of the government [titles as heard]. Cuba is represented by Antonio Esquivel, vice president of the Council of Ministers.

The negotiations will end on Thursday [15 June] with the signing of a final protocol.

SED Representative Arrives in Havana for Talks

AU0706160489 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 6 Jun 89 p 2

[ADN report: "SED Representative Arrives for Meetings in Havana"]

[Text] Havana (ADN)—On Monday [5 June] Horst Dohls, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, arrived in Havana to participate in the regular meetings of the secretaries for party and organizational issues of the Central Committees of socialist countries' communist and workers parties. He was cordially welcomed by Jose Ramon Machado, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, at the "Jose Marti" Airport.

Speaks at Havana Conference

AU0806104989 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 7 Jun 89 p 1

[ADN Report: "Central Committee Secretaries Meeting Starts in Havana"]

[Text] Havana (ADN)—On Tuesday [6 June] a conference of the secretaries for party and organizational issues of the central committees of socialist countries' communist and workers parties began in Havana. The following parties are represented at the meeting: the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED], the Workers Party of Korea, the Communist Party of Cuba, the Lao Peoples Revolutionary Party, the Mongolian Peoples Revolutionary Party, the Polish United Workers Party, the Romanian Communist Party, the CPSU, and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

The conference was opened by Jose Ramon Machado, member of the politburo and secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. In the morning, Horst Dohls, member of the politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, took the floor. He conveyed most cordial greetings from the SED Central Committee and its general secretary, Erich Honnecker, to the conference participants.

The exchange of views and experiences on the qualitative and quantitative growth of the party with the goal of raising its leading role in building socialism is highly topical. Horst Dohls stressed. The SED is paying great attention to the tasks connected with this, because it has been shown again and again that the successful shaping of the developed socialist society in the GDR requires, above all, unified actions that are linked with the masses by the party and the further raising of its leading role in order to meet the increasing social demands and to implement the decisions of the 11th SED Congress in all their complexity. Horst Dohls noted that 40 years of GDR are clear evidence of the fact that Marxism-Leninism has lost nothing of its vitality and that the workers class, under the leadership of the party and together with all working people, is able to establish and lead a modern industrial state.

The achievements accomplished with the SEDs social strategy are due to the fact that with this strategy the party is always creatively following the general regularities of the socialist revolution and the building of socialism. "For us," Horst Dohls added, "these regularities still are, in particular, the preservation of the political power of the workers class, which it exercises in alliance with all other working people the leading role of the party, social ownership of all decisive production means, socialist planned economy, and the determining role of socialist ideology. Safeguarding the interests of the working people, the dynamic development of the first worker-peasant state on Germany's soil have been and remain

for our party the most important test of the correctness of its policy, because, in the end, what counts is the result of these things for the peoples living standard, for the attractiveness of socialism, and for the safeguarding of peace."

In line with the decisions of the 11th SED Congress, the SED continues to aim the further growth of the party at qualitative factors, while creatively applying Lenin's principles of membership. The central issue in this respect is the steady ideopolitical fortification of all comrades, so that every communist is ready and able to actively participate in shaping and consciously supporting the party's policy. Always ensuring sensitive work with the people, discussing everything with them, heeding their advice, and challenging their initiative—for the SED and each of its members this is and remains the core of effective work to convince the people, Horst Dohls said.

Received by Castro

AU1206172989 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND
in German 9 Jun 89 p 2

[ADN report: "Fidel Castro Received Representatives of Fraternal Parties"]

[Text] Havana (ADN)—On Wednesday night [7 June], Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers, received the foreign delegations at the conclusion of the regular meeting between secretaries for party and organizational issues of the Central Committees of communist and workers parties of socialist countries in Havana. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany was represented by Politburo member Horst Dohls, secretary of the Central Committee. Fidel Castro praised the importance of the exchange of opinions and experiences between the fraternal parties on basic questions of socialist development and the further procedures in the field of securing peace. He stressed that the demands on the leading role of the parties for the solution of the complicated tasks of our time are increasing continuously.

Doctors in USSR To Treat Accident Victims

FL0906161689 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1358 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Two Cuban doctors are in the Soviet Union to assist with the medical care of persons who suffered serious burns as a result of the gas pipeline explosion in the Ural Mountains. Doctor Alejandro Martinez, chief of the burn unit at the Hermanos Ameijeiras Hospital, and researcher Carlos Mella, deputy director of the Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Center, compose the mission which has been sent by the Government of Cuba.

The Cuban doctors took with them enough epidermic growth factor to administer a full treatment cycle to over 200 patients. The epidermic growth factor was created in Cuba by the Genetic Engineering Center and is produced by the national medical-pharmaceutical industry.

Educators' Meeting in Moscow Shows Cooperation

FL0906202989 Havana Radio Reloj Network
in Spanish 1944 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] The participation of professors from the Central University of Las Villas in the seminar entitled, Students of Africa and Latin America, which is being held in Moscow, is only part of the cooperation with our counterparts in Moscow's Friendship with Peoples Patrice Lumumba Institute. This was said by Ovidio Rodriguez Santo, Russian-language professor of Las Villas University. He also stated that the most valuable aspect of the conference was the methodology of language teaching, phonetics, and syntax discussion.

The cooperation between both institutions began in 1967 and today continues in three areas: teaching of Russian language, agriculture, and social sciences.

Officials from Moscow University's Tropical Plant Department constantly visit our country for research work carried out in cooperation with their Cuban counterparts.

Venezuelan Educators Meet Education Minister

FL1206223689 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 2033 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] The rectification process in education, the building of teaching centers, entrance exams, and the training of teachers were the principal topics discussed today during a meeting in Havana between 14 Venezuelan rectors and Fernando Vecino Alegret, Cuban minister of higher education.

The Venezuelan delegation is headed by Elizabeth de Caldera, president of the Venezuelan Rectors Association and rector of the Simon Bolivar University. The delegation will tour the Jose Antonio Echeverria Higher Polytechnical Institute, the regional scientific research center, and the Higher Institute of Agricultural-Livestock Sciences before they return to Venezuela on 17 June.

DPRK Party Delegation Arrives in Cuba

SK0906054189 Pyongyang Domestic Service
in Korean 1300 GMT 5 Jun 89

[Text] The Workers Party of Korea [WPK] delegation led by Comrade Kye Ung-tae, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, arrived in Havana on 3 June.

Jose Ramon Machado, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] and secretary of the PCC Central Committee, deputy chiefs of the PCC Central Committee, and other functionaries concerned were at the airport to welcome the delegation.

Our country's ambassador to Cuba and employees of the embassy were on hand at the airport.

TV Marti Termed 'Violation' of UN Treaty
*FL1306021289 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 2335 GMT 12 Jun 89*

[Report by Daniel Torres on "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] The U.S. newspaper, THE WASHINGTON POST, has said that the construction of the so-called Television Marti by the U.S. Government is a violation of the treaty of the International Union of Telecommunications, a specialized UN organization. The agreement was signed by the United States and Cuba in 1981. In accordance with the ABM [no further expansion provided], the anti-Cuban station will broadcast its programs over frequencies that, based on the treaty, are exclusively reserved for Cuban media.

The newspaper warns that the United States is violating other agreements signed between the United States and Cuba. THE WASHINGTON POST adds that anti-Cuban circles are harboring the absurd hope that the station will cause disturbances and originate changes in the Caribbean island.

In the meantime, Cuban filmmaker Octavio Cortazar, in an interview he gave in Paris to the French press agency, AFP, said that the project for that worm television is totally immoral and also illegal. The Cuban film director said that U.S. President George Bush has said he wants to proceed with this project and that Television Marti could begin broadcasting by the end of this very year. This could reactivate strong tension between the United States and Cuba since it is an obvious case of aggression, a provocation, and interference in Cuban internal affairs, said Cortazar.

Friends, Comrade Marlen Estrellas told me she covered a quick visit Mr Romesh Chandra, president of the World Peace Council [WPC], made during a stopover on his return from Nicaragua. During his talk, he referred to the Television Marti program and he made important statements in reference to this worm television station.

I would prefer, friends, to make immediate contact with Marlen Estrellas in the National Division to hear a report on a topic of unquestionable importance. The radio contact is live. Good evening, Marlen Estrellas.

[Estrellas] Good evening Daniel and listeners.

[Torres] Greetings.

[Estrellas] We want the "Exclusivo" audience to know that Chandra's exclusive remarks were made during a technical stopover at Havana's Jose Marti International Airport upon his return from Nicaragua. Managua, the capital of Nicaragua, was the site of the fourth biennial congress, Destiny and Hope of the Land. This was an important international meeting organized by the WPC.

First of all, Daniel, Chandra spoke to us of this congress.

[Begin Chandra recording, in English with simultaneous Spanish translation] I participated in the last part of this important congress and my main contribution to it was the fact that I was privileged to present the WPC's Julio Curi Medal to President Daniel Ortega.

I think the main contribution of this congress was the fact that it showed the oneness of the struggle, the fact that the ecological questions cannot be solved separately from the problems of economic development, peace, disarmament. This is quite clear and I think that the organizers who previously held their biennial congresses in the United States and Canada came for the first time to a developing country, a country like Nicaragua. There you can see the oneness of the struggle very vividly. [end recording]

The president of the WPC later referred to the U.S. Government's plan to begin broadcasting anti-Cuban television programs.

[Begin Chandra recording, in English with simultaneous Spanish translation] They attempt to use the name of Marti for a scandalous, [word indistinct] prank to distort information, etc. We know, we have no doubt what type of station this is. To carry this out is against all international understandings and something which we are very much aware of. We consider that at this time, there is need for greater understanding among nations against all such attempts by the imperialists [words indistinct]. People talk of a new climate and there is no climate. This is totally contrary to the spirit of a new climate. So, anyway, I think the Cuban people, the people in decision, are prepared to confront this and I think it will be necessary to answer it. Cuba can look after itself. There is no problem with that. [chuckles] But, nevertheless, we must now [word indistinct] the seriousness at the expense of Cuba. Even though Cuba is very strong, we know that we must respond properly. [end recording]

[Estrella] Daniel, these were the exclusive remarks we received from WPC President Romesh Chandra.

[Torres] Due to the prominence, the importance of this international figure, I would like to stress the fundamental points Chandra made in his talk with Estrellas on the worm television station that the United States wants to name Tele-Marti [as heard], a new aggression against our people.

Chandra said that the use of the Cuban national hero, Jose Marti, is itself an act of aggression against Cuba. He said the United States has no right whatsoever to do this

and it is against international agreements. He said we should unite our voices to reject this aggression. A great understanding between nations against this new U.S. attack on Cuba should be developed. The attitude of the United States works against a climate of peace, said Chandra, and a response is necessary because the seriousness of this act must be considered. Cuba knows how to take care of itself but an international response must be made against this new anti-Cuban aggression on the part of the United States, said the WPC president to our "Exclusivo" reporter.

Commentary on Quayle's Central America Tour
PA1106222989 Havana International Service
in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Jun 89

["Topics" feature by Amalia Sanmartino and Roberto Morejon]

[Text] [Morejon] Greetings, friends. On Monday, U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle will begin an official tour of Central America with the specific task of coordinating plans against Nicaragua and Panama. This is an old strategy of former President Ronald Reagan that President George Bush has continued.

Amalia, as you are aware and as the press has been reporting, Quayle will visit Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica. Once again he is leaving out of the tour....

[Sanmartino, interrupting] But that is an old policy of U.S. Administrations.

[Morejon] Precisely the point I wanted to mention. All U.S. delegations that have visited the region over the past few years—to supposedly, quote, coordinate efforts for dialogue [no "unquote" as heard]—have left Nicaragua off of their tours. Over the past 2 years, Panama has also been left out of these tours. Panama and Nicaragua are the target of U.S. attacks. I think we should further comment on this.

[Sanmartino] Indeed, Roberto, you mentioned the visits and the countries left out of the U.S. envoys' tours to Central America. I believe it is timely to mention this. Politics never consist of isolated actions. It is good to mention this point because many of the measures [being adopted] are similar. We mentioned in the past—and the world was aware of this—that there was a campaign against Panama prior to the elections in which U.S. Government officials openly meddled.

Also, it is interesting to note that now, even after the Supreme Electoral Council has been established in Nicaragua, where a number of very intense debates by the opposition have taken place, it is being said that....[changes thought] Well, as you know, the opposition is quite divided; they have problems. They have not settled their disputes over whether or not they should continue fighting, take amnesty, and other things.

[Morejon] There are also ambitions to reach power among those inside and outside Nicaragua, like Alfonso Robelo, who wants to be nominated and is thinking about returning to Nicaragua. However, his return obviously depends on promises made to him; in other words, how big a share of the power he will get.

[Sanmartino] Of course.

[Morejon] All this is based on an alleged victory by the opposition in the February 1990 elections.

[Sanmartino] In addition, as you know, they have their big businesses, the issue that always prevails in their disagreements.

Aside from that, they have agreed on one thing: the [opposition] will start saying the February 1990 Nicaraguan electoral process is not legal. Moreover, they are already questioning magistrate Marino Fiallos, who will head the supreme electoral council, being directly appointed by President Daniel Ortega. The opposition is already questioning the magistrate. There is a reason for this. Recently, two U.S. Government officials were expelled from Nicaragua for openly meddling in Nicaraguan affairs, such as promoting a strike in Chinandega, and a series of....

[Morejon, interrupting] I would link this—which is the strategy of the Nicaraguan political opposition, which completely supports U.S. plans for the region—to individual actions by U.S. diplomats stationed in Managua. For example, Amalia, you mentioned the expulsion of two diplomats—linked to the teachers—who tried to manipulate the division that exists in this sector. There is a severe economic crisis in Nicaragua, aggravated primarily by U.S. aggression. Nicaragua is also suffering from the unjust international economic order and receives low prices for its raw materials, and so on. However, the war and the U.S. embargo are elements that determine the very difficult situation Nicaragua is enduring. The demands by some specific labor sectors are valid to some extent, concerning salary raises, and so on. Of course, the government is keenly interested in this because its own principles include discussing with labor sectors possibilities for solving problems. All measures adopted by the Nicaraguan Government are designed to solve the problems of the people. However, having U.S. Government officials encouraging strikes and even going to where Nicaraguan teachers' leaders are is unacceptable. This is why these diplomats were expelled.

[Sanmartino] This is part of the campaign.

[Morejon] That is correct. I want to remind our listeners that the Nicaraguan political opposition's strategy of questioning the electoral process, at this point, is the same strategy that was implemented in Panama. In other words, the Panamanian electoral process was already being questioned before the 7 February [as heard] elections.

[Sanmartino] This is beginning to take place in Nicaragua. However, I believe the process will be stronger in Nicaragua to whatever extent opposition sectors receive U.S. support. In this regard, it even seems there is [words indistinct] a great similarity to events in Panama.

It will be necessary, however, to wait, because President Daniel Ortega has even invited UN observers to witness the elections. This is evidence of the clean manner in which the elections are being handled.

[Morejon] Did you notice that a few days ago, [Bernard] Aronson was confirmed as deputy secretary of state for inter-American affairs. This is very important because Aronson is a veteran supporter of the attacks against Nicaragua. The current [U.S.] Administration has not eliminated....[incomplete sentence as heard] It is wise to remember that Aronson replaces Elliott Abrams, a veteran anti-Nicaraguan hawk. Although Aronson may be more moderate and perhaps not so reactionary in his speeches, in his speeches [repeats himself], no one doubts his actions may also lead the White House to the anti-Nicaraguan policies of controlling the opposition, questioning the electoral process, and even giving new impetus to the anti-Nicaraguan military forces—the counterrevolutionary forces. Over the past few hours we have learned that the contras have attacked a power station in Jinotega Department, Nicaragua. This is very significant, because it could be a signal that new impetus will be given to the counterrevolutionaries. These are the prospects for Panama and Nicaragua. This is the context for Quayle's tour of Central America, from which, we repeat, the United States consciously excluded Nicaragua and Panama.

Alleged Plot Against Castro in Caracas Disclosed
PA1106235289 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish
1514 GMT 11 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Havana, 11 Jun (REUTER)—[Passage omitted] The Interior Ministry's Mayor Noel Silgado said that the last conspiracy to kill Castro was during the Cuban leader's visit to Chile in 1970. At that time a gun disguised as a camera was to be used.

Replying to a reporter's question, Silgado said that Cuban intelligence services learned that anti-Castro exiles had similar plans for when Castro traveled to Caracas in February, to take part in the swearing-in ceremonies of Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez. The mayor refrained from giving details.

The Cuban president indirectly referred to this during his stay in Caracas when he spoke to reporters about the "danger" surrounding his trip. [passage omitted]

Haiti

Reportage on Drivers Unions Lifting Strike

Waiting for School To End

FL0906131589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Excerpt] Yesterday was the 1st day of a 2-day strike called for by drivers unions to demand that the price of

gasoline be lowered and that Major Isidor Pongnon be removed as head of the traffic department. We are going to talk about this 1st day of strike. However, according to an announcement by a colleague this morning, the drivers unions have lifted the strike for today. This colleague said this morning that they are going to wait for school to be over.

As for the 1st day of the strike called for by CATH [Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers], a union federation, the day was successful. Most of the capital's public transportation vehicle drivers adhered to the strike. There were only about a dozen tap-taps [a type of public transportation vehicle] seen on Grand Rue in Cite Soleil, and at the airport. This was contrary to the 31 May warning strike during which all activities were totally paralyzed in the capital.

However, most stores remained closed. The industrial park had approximately 50 percent absenteeism. Certain schools were unable to function properly because there were too few students. Other schools were even forced to send students home.

Despite the presence of a number of Army trucks and government buses, several thousand people in Port-au-Prince were unable to get to work on time. They had to wait a long time before finding a means of transportation to get to work. We also noticed that many public administration employees were absent from work.

The strike also affected the town of Petit Goave and all the major circuits in the nation. It affected travel from Cap-Haitien, Les Cayes, Gonaives, and Hinche to the capital. However, activities were normal in the provincial towns. There were no incidents during the day.

In a statement to the press, a drivers union representative castigated the government's attitude, its behavior, saying that the government showed no willingness to try to find a solution to this crisis and respond to the drivers' demands. According to the union spokesman, the strike is not a strike against the interests of the society as the government said.

[Begin unidentified union representative recording] We couldn't just sit there in silence after the government's statement. These maneuvers can't make us drivers forget the two points we have asked the government to respond to.

We take this opportunity to inform all drivers throughout Haiti, as well as the rest of the Haitian people, that the government lied when it implied that the investigating committee it has formed on the high cost of living and on lowering the price of gasoline is proof that it wanted to respond to the drivers demands. That is a lie! If the government had wanted to respond to the drivers demands, it would have transferred Major Isidor Pongnon from the head of the traffic department before talking about any committee. Also, we drivers were not

invited into this matter of a committee. We drivers are not striking just to be striking. We are striking to get the government to respond to our demands.

We, the drivers unions of the metropolitan area, Arcahaie, Cabaret, CSTH [Central Organization of Haitian Transport Workers Unions], and the Petion-Ville Drivers Union, denounce the government's maneuvers. The government held a meeting with drivers at the Petion-Ville barracks and also contacted lots of drivers in the streets offering them big bucks to work during the strike as if the drivers are indeed fools who don't know what they are after.

And here's our answer to the government, which said that we were against the society: If there is anyone who is against the society, it is not us drivers but rather the government, which is keeping its cool, so to speak, and does not want to respond to the demands of the Haitian masses.

We inform the general public that any drivers seen out in the streets in a public transportation vehicle working are not really public transportation vehicle drivers. They are other drivers, government drivers—take a good look at their faces—who have gone out in the streets to work.

We note that the government has sent many soldiers out into the streets to provide security. We drivers are not assassins. This strike we are holding is a peaceful one. If the government wanted to show that it really cared about the population, why doesn't it use all those soldiers to protect people from thieves that give them no respite at night and to prevent people from being killed every day in Haiti? [end recording]

The government announced last night that the appropriate services have been ordered to study the possibility of reforming a national public transportation company. Further, the government announced to everyone interested that in case the strike continues today, they are improving the system of vehicles they have put out into the streets so that people will not have to wait too long for transportation. They will organize this better for today. [passage omitted]

Public Transportation Resumes

*FL0906202289 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1600 GMT 8 Jun 89*

[Excerpts] Public transportation resumed operating in Port-au-Prince today. The 2d day of the strike was canceled by union leaders who say they want to allow students to take their end-of-the-year exams.

Jean-Claude Lebrun [Port-au-Prince Radio National in Creole at 1300 GMT on 9 Jun reports that Jean-Claude Pierre-Louis was the person who canceled the strike;

Jean-Claude Lebrun is secretary general of the Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers affiliated with the Latin American Central Organization of Workers, CATH/CLAT] explains:

[Begin Lebrun recording, in Creole] [Passage omitted] Today, 7 June, the strike is once again a 100-percent success despite all the government's maneuvers. The government offered drivers big bucks to demobilize this strike but it was unable to do so. [passage omitted] After this strike day on 7 June, which was a complete success, (?we) have decided to cancel the strike for tomorrow, Thursday, 8 June. This is in order to respond to the students, who asked that the unions take them into consideration. [passage omitted]

We are informing the government that we are going to let the students finish taking their tests. They have only a week to go. Then, we will hit the government even harder, if it does not respond to the two points of our demands: remove Isidor Pongnon as head of the traffic department and lower the price of gasoline.

We do not want the students to have to ride in the trash pickup trucks that [Education] Minister Zamor put out for them nor do we want the government to continue black-marketeering with the buses it said it would provide so that students could go to school. [sentence as heard]

We have noted—the students and passengers who were going to work said—that the soldiers forced them to pay 2 gourdes to ride in these vehicles. [passage omitted] [end recording] [passage omitted]

The provinces also adhered well to the drivers strike. [passage omitted]

A press release from the Ministry of Information reminded government officials and employees, according to a notice from the Ministry of Public Administration and the Civil Service, of their obligation to be at their posts every workday during normal working hours, in conformity with Articles 12, 18, 56, 70, 71, and 72 of the law of 19 September 1982, which (?set forth) general regulations for (?public employees). The press release said that in the event of a total paralysis of public transportation services, the ministries and public establishments will use their respective vehicles to provide transportation to and from work for (?public employees), according to the practical modalities decided on by all the parties concerned.

Union Official Cancels Strike

*FL0906201089 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in Creole 1300 GMT 9 Jun 89*

[Text] Jean-Claude Pierre-Louis, the secretary general of the transport workers union for the metropolitan area, canceled the 2d day of the transport workers strike. This gave rise to a big cry of indignation from the other union federations.

Mr Jean-Claude Pierre-Louis has been removed from his position of union secretary general. The other four union federations that called for the strike met yesterday afternoon at FOS headquarters—FOS is the Federation of Workers Trade Unions—to ask Jean-Claude Pierre-Louis to give them a good explanation of why he made this decision, which he made all by himself.

Decision Called 'Unilateral'

FL1206181089 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Did Mr Jean-Claude Pierre-Louis, president of the Metropolitan Area Public Transportation Drivers Union [SCTPM], take money under the table to stop the strike called by four drivers unions for 7 and 8 June? In any case, the strike was called off. Jean-Claude Pierre-Louis reached the decision by himself and announced it over National Haitian Television the night before last [7 June].

The different unions met yesterday to discuss this problem.

On 8 May, the Central Organization of Haitian Transport Workers Unions, CSH; the Metropolitan Area Public Transport Drivers Union, SCTPM; the Petion-Ville Drivers Union [CSPV]; and the Archaie Drivers Union met at the headquarters of the Federation of Workers Trade Unions, FOS, to find out how Jean-Claude Pierre-Louis, the secretary general [title as heard] of the metropolitan area drivers union, came to call off the strike for 8 May.

These four unions said the decision to call off the strike was a personal decision, which Pierre-Louis made alone. They even suspect him of having accepted money from the government since there had already been talk of money being paid in order to stop the strike. [passage omitted]

Cajuste Lexius, the president [title as heard] of the SCTPM, the union Pierre-Louis is affiliated with, cannot understand how this happened.

[Begin Lexius recording] As we have already said, the decision Jean-Claude made to call off the strike was a unilateral decision. That means that it was a decision he himself reached personally, alone, despite the fact that he says it was because he took pity on the students. We too feel bad about the students but if we strike it is not just that we feel like striking. It is because we are making certain demands. [passage omitted] We have suspended Jean-Claude until further notice, that is, until we hold a general assembly. Those attending the general assembly will reach a definitive decision on the sanctions to be taken against Jean-Claude for this decision of his. We are also going to conduct investigations on the basis of the sanction that is taken against him. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Col Rebus Speaks on Recent Coup Attempt

FL0906180689 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] [Announcer] Colonel Himmler Rebus gives his version of the events 2 months after the attempted coup at the beginning of April. Col Rebus touches on the main points in an interview he granted Radio Soleil.

Col Rebus also claims that the perpetrators of the coup did not intend either to exile General Avril or to provoke a bloodbath in Haiti. The former Leopard Corps commander also speaks of the problems that still exist in Haiti, and of the existing situation which is still serious. This is why he cannot give the true reasons that led them to attempt a coup d'etat.

Col Rebus advocated a new behavior within the Army so that the Army would stop being the enemy of the Haitian people. The Army too bears responsibility for the 29 November 1987 massacre and should acknowledge this responsibility, says Col Himmler Rebus. Here is the report that [reporter] Colette has prepared.

[Colette] In a chat with Radio Soleil 2 months after an attempted coup d'etat, Col Himmler Rebus, one of the officers who tried to take power away from Gen Avril, provided some explanations as to how the coup came to fail. Col Rebus said he never had any contact with Roger Lafontant in preparing the coup d'etat. He also said they did not intend to send Gen Avril away into exile nor to allow anyone to die during the coup d'etat for it was against all these things that he was fighting, said the colonel.

Col Rebus also said he doesn't know whether or not there might have been betrayal on the part of some of the plotters, such as Colonel Lionel Claude. However, they knew that setting up the plot entailed risks because Colonel Biamby did not have the Presidential Guard well in hand.

[Begin recording] [Rebus] I myself, personally, never had any contact whatsoever with Roger Lafontant and at no time did the officers with whom I was working on the coup—on the reasons for the coup—was Roger Lafontant's name mentioned. In the existing plans, it was never a question of Lafontant having General Abraham take power temporarily before the president of the Court of Cassation took over.

Now, why? I suppose that in planning the coup d'etat I never would have gone and planned it with Gen Avril! Therefore, it is very difficult for Gen Avril to know why we attempted the coup to the point of knowing that the coup was Roger Lafontant at work!

[Unidentified reporter] But he said he knew about the coup. Does this mean that someone among you betrayed the others?

[Rebus] Oh? He knew about the coup? [Words indistinct] take (?him) to the Leopard Camp?

[Reporter] He said that in his news conference. He said he knew about it.

[Rebus] That is a bit infantile, a bit infantile [words indistinct]....

[Reporter, interrupting] But how can you explain their releasing him so easily?

[Rebus] What?

[Reporter] How did they manage to get out so easily and how come it ended up being you people effecting the coup who sort of became the victims?

[Rebus] [Words indistinct] under control at the Leopard Camp from 0300 to 0930. I was one of the people who vetoed the idea. There was no question of Gen Avril's leaving the country, having been sent into exile, because it was time to put a halt to that kind of thing. That was my position. I said that I would not collaborate in the least in this business of sending Avril away to any country whatsoever.

[Reporter] So you yourself would have kept him in Haiti?

[Rebus] He was supposed to stay at home. He was supposed to stay at home. [repeats] They would have provided security for his house. He would have stayed home and we would have made sure that he couldn't hinder the process set into motion, (?that's all).

[Reporter] So, what happened?

[Rebus] Now, when we studied the plan, we asked... [incomplete sentence as heard] Now, a number of people very close to Gen Avril entered the Palace. What do we do? I said: Gentlemen, let me tell you. These men are soldiers. As officers, we have shouldered our responsibilities regarding all the enlisted men from the Dessalines Barracks, the Palace, and the Leopards Corps in order to effect the coup. It was not an officers coup or a soldiers coup, rather, it was a coup by both officers and soldiers. Clearly. When we went down to the Palace, all the Dessalines Barracks, Palace, and Leopard troops were ready. It wasn't just a fantasy of one officer or any one person [words indistinct].

[Reporter] So what happened?

[Rebus] [Words indistinct] the problem, (?we) asked if they should come in—even Sergeant Heubreux. Sgt Heubreux was at his home. The question came up: If Heubreux tries to come in, regardless of what were to happen, the enlisted men had to be allowed in because it was their post. If we were going to do a job like that, we were not going to begin doing it on the basis of division.

The question came up: What if they react? Well, if they react we will shoulder responsibility for the reaction. I myself, as an officer, (?forbade) anyone—regardless of who—to order an enlisted man to fire at another enlisted man, to order a member of the Armed Forces to open fire on another member of the Armed Forces. We knew this could happen. We took the risk because we couldn't just stand there and let things go further.

Now, indeed, when we got inside everything was being planned, etc. Now, they [not further identified] came in. When they came in, they began contacting the troops and began grumbling.

[Reporter] Who is they?

[Rebus] We said: We said we had to shoulder our responsibilities, that if there was a way to engage in dialogue with them [not further identified], we would do so, but if they refused to talk and decided to execute with us, so be it. And that so be it, too, if they decided to take us prisoner.

[Reporter] Are you talking about the members of the Presidential Guard?

[Rebus] I'm talking about [rephrases] There were some 20 men who came in who had been with Gen Avril during the evening who are sort of his close bodyguards, who are always with him. And I can understand their reaction, because they are with Gen Avril, who is the president. They had gone out with him during the evening and then they come in and hear things are different. It is normal for them to react.

[Reporter] But the course of events later shows that it is these men who won. It looks as if these 20 people you are talking about were more powerful than all the others put together.

[Rebus] No, it was a matter of what you call the relation between forces. It was a matter of weapons. They came in. When they finished grumbling, they went and got the tanks and fired off a couple of shots and automatically everyone became agitated. All the soldiers in the Palace did an about-face now. If a guy with a rifle in his hand finds himself facing a tank, there is an imbalance in the forces. All these things have to be taken into consideration.

[Reporter] Yes, but how come the person responsible for the Presidential Guard, who was participating in this coup with you, didn't verify the position of certain soldiers, even psychologically speaking, (?and didn't see that such soldiers) might use the tanks? Do you mean to say that that wasn't taken into account in the planning?

[Rebus] This was decided.... [changes thought] Colonel Biamby had told us clearly that the timing [preceding word in English] was bad. The Presidential Guard is not

like, for example, the Leopards, where the line of command is tight. He had clearly explained to us that it was risky. But given the importance of the matter, we took the risks, that's all. [end recording]

[Colette] To this day, Col Rebus refused to state all the reasons for this attempted coup. He feels the situation is still in danger [as heard]. Thus, he feels he cannot reveal all. However, one of the reasons the colonel did give is that there was a feeling among the Army that Gen Avril was on the way to setting up a personal government and that he was not willing to hold elections. Col Rebus said that it was the Army that would later have to suffer the consequences because this would distance the Army even further from the Haitian people.

Col Rebus also said they did not intend to hold on to power. After 2 weeks, after explaining everything to the Haitian people, they would have turned the government over to the Court of Cassation so it could prepare elections.

But were the Haitian people asking for elections? Col Rebus said we had to go through that phase one way or another and we had to respect the Constitution, even if the Constitution has weaknesses in it.

Further on (?in this interview), Col Rebus made a plea for a different mind-set and a different behavior in the Haitian Army, so that this Army will stop acting like an enemy of the Haitian people. Rebus feels the Army's attitude toward the population is something they [not further identified] sold this Army on, so to speak, in Haiti, and that we should today begin questioning this behavior.

However, regarding the behavior of the soldiers who were under the orders of Col Rebus himself and who used to commit big acts of repression against the population—such as what the Leopards did to the Armtex [Apparel, S.A.] workers in front of the Social Affairs office in Delmas—the colonel defended himself and said that such a distrustful attitude had to change.

But where were all those important Army leaders on 29 November, when the Haitian people were being massacred? Col Rebus feels the Haitian Army has some responsibility for what happened on 29 November and that the Army has to admit this.

[Begin Rebus recording] Regarding 29 November, the Army was confined to barracks as of the 27th. This means that we were locked up inside the barracks because we knew there were going to be elections and that we would, out of necessity, have to go out and guarantee security during the elections. I myself, as an officer—and I had my electoral card in my pocket, the card I had gotten at Saint Pierre Church in Petion-Ville—was waiting to at last [preceding two words in Spanish] prepare a security plan. I was deputy commander of the Leopard Corps back then. Col Denis was the Leopard Corps commander.

So, we waited. And Friday, the list of the polling stations for which we were to be responsible did not arrive. It didn't arrive on Saturday either.

I went down to see the colonel [not further identified] and asked him what was going on. He told me he was still waiting because, to that date, he had not received any orders. He said everyone should stay there and wait in order to ensure security.

I said: But I have a problem here! Because we don't know how far away the polling places are, and we would have a.... [incomplete sentence as heard] In any case, I don't know, we were awaiting orders.

Well, on Saturday night, the orders had still not arrived, and on Sunday morning, the orders had still not arrived! And the orders never came. Finally, when we heard the radio.... [changes thought] We had thought that since there were administrative problems they had had to postpone the elections. However, it was over the radio that we heard that there were disorders (?going on).

Of course, I am talking to you about my own post. We ourselves were locked up out in Freres [a section of Petion-Ville] awaiting instructions. Now, what happened? Lots of people have asked me questions, have asked me who is responsible. I'll tell you, I don't know who is responsible because I wasn't on the scene of the incidents. However, I know that the Army has a responsibility in this. It has a responsibility, even if this responsibility were to turn out to be only a moral one.

If there is going to be an election, it is the Army's duty to provide security during the elections. Should there be some administrative or some political problem that causes the list of the polling stations to fail to arrive, thereby preventing the Army from carrying out its duty, the Army must inform the population. The Army must tell the population that it has such and such a problem and that it cannot guarantee security because it does not have the basic elements—that it does not know where the polling places are—in order to go provide security for the population.

If this (?was) not done, the Army authorities must provide an explanation on this matter because the Army is an institution with a hierarchy. I cannot, as an Army officer, just get up and decide to go do this or that at such-and-such a place. A superior gives me an order.

When a superior gives me the opposite order—for example, an order confining me to the barracks—this means they lock me up inside the barracks. So I stay inside my barracks. Now, the order for me to go out and do the work does not arrive. I myself am obligated to stay put and wait for the order. Now, disorder occurs. My superior must explain to me why he didn't order me out to do my job. This is clear, clear [repeats]. I can tell you that the Army as an institution cannot deny its responsibility in connection with the 29 November incidents. [end recording]

[Colette] Colonels Rebus, Biamby, and Qualo, have been at the (Varig Street) prison in Manhattan, New York, since early April, waiting to be given the status of political refugees. Col Rebus considers putting him in jail a bit of crooked wheeling-and-dealing by the Haitian and U.S. Governments in cahoots to keep them in prison illegally.

'Assembly of Democrats' Linked to Duvalierists
*FL1206145589 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1100 GMT 9 Jun 89*

[Excerpts] Two citizens, who identified themselves as former members of the political party called Assembly of Democrats for the Republic [Rassembleman pou la Repiblik] [RDR], whose headquarters was on Delmas 19, inform everyone that despite the fact that the police have listed them as being Dessalines Barracks detectives they do not have any weapons in their possession. They also inform that they turned in their cards to a palace soldier (?shortly) after 17 September.

According to the tax office identification cards and drivers licenses that these two citizens presented to us at Radio Soleil's Complaints Office, their names are (Aris Jean Felior) and (Axius Nelson). The police's third list of detectives shows a Jean Thelior Aris and a Scius Nelson.

These two citizens say they had nothing to do with weapons nor with the 29 November massacres. However, they used to see men in jeeps going in and out of the RDC headquarters with heavy-caliber weapons. They say the party's big protector was deceased Colonel Jean-Claude Paul.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified speaker] I live on Delmas 19. Once, as I passed by Ruelle Pierre Sully, I saw an office marked RDR. I asked what RDR meant. They told me it meant Assembly of Democrats for the Republic [Rassemblement des Democrates Repiblik] [mix of French and Creole in name as heard], a political party. I asked if I, as a Haitian citizen, could join. They said that there was no problem, that I could join. I went in and they registered me and him, too. Then they asked me for two pictures. I gave them the two pictures.

After some 15 days, as I went by, I noticed a sign on a small blackboard summoning all members of the political party to a meeting. I went. When I got there, I found that a card had been sent there for me, from the Dessalines Barracks. I said: Because of my job, I don't have time to participate in this. I saw that the card said: Assistance and protection (?and) Dessalines Barracks. They pressured me when I said I wouldn't take it. They said it was something that I knew about and that how could I refuse this card that had been sent to me? They pressured me.

These people were authorities, so to speak. I didn't know I was getting into a matter of so-called authorities. I thought it was a political party. That is what the sign had said. Anyway, I played along with them and then

dropped the whole thing. But I never [words indistinct] at the office. I didn't go there much. I would drop by occasionally [words indistinct] my work.

But after the coup—since this bothered me, because I didn't go there to register for that sort of thing—I went to the National Palace. I met with a corporal named Jean-Gilles Agathange and asked him for information about returning the card. He asked me to explain and I explained things to him and he accepted the card from me. He said there was no problem, that a lot of people had had these cards, and that he had already accepted back (?several) of them. The corporal also took his card. He had gone to work and it was I who gave back both cards. And then, while I was at work yesterday, I heard my name being named as a person who was being asked to return the card. I had already returned the card in August or September of 1988. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] Gentlemen, you were members of this political party. Who was heading the party?

[Speaker] It was a lady, a certain Mrs Gerard, I think, as well as a man they called Youpy. It is he whom I know....

[Reporter, interrupting] You don't know their full names?

[Speaker] No, no, I don't.

[Reporter] Was this party connected to Col Jean-Claude Paul?

[Speaker] The way I came to see that it was connected was because I saw that the card was signed by Jean-Claude Paul. However, I didn't see Jean-Claude Paul when I went to register. I never laid eyes on Jean-Claude Paul. I wouldn't even have recognized him had I met him on the street.

[Reporter] Nevertheless, there are certain documents circulating, from back when the place was raided, that show that they used to give you people jobs, too. Jean-Claude used to sign....

[Speaker, interrupting] I was never involved in this job business. I work in a factory. Jean-Claude Paul never got me a job.

[Reporter] Can you tell me what connection there is between the RDA [acronym as heard] and the 29 November elections—the massacre?

[Speaker] I don't know anything about that. I had not yet joined the RDR. [passage omitted]

I want them to confirm, to inform the public in general and the police in particular, that I never had any weapon in my possession, that all I had was a card and that I turned this card in to a corporal in the guard, Jean-Gilles

Agathange, back in 1987. Here, look, here are his phone numbers which he gave me: 3-9611 and 3-9958 National Palace and 2-4189. [passage omitted] [end recording]

According to the 16 September 1988 issue of the periodical LE CHRONIQUEUR, the political party RDR, which is a party that wears the colors of the 1987 regime—that is, a Duvalierism-without-Duvalier party, so to speak—had between 20,000 and 35,000 active members. According to this periodical, which was being run by Camille P. Sanon and which is close to the RDR, the RDR, with headquarters on Delmas 19, was formed after 7 February 1986. It gathered together the principal people victimized during the 2 years that followed the flight of Duvalier—that is to say, the macoutes and Duvalierists who had been uprooted, so to speak.

According to LE CHRONIQUEUR, this party was rallied behind the Haitian Army and had several offices in the provinces. The party was even planning to start an ongoing seminar for the training of journalists in October of 1988.

Back then, the periodical wrote that this party was not a dream but a reality that the official media ignored. In its 16 September issue, LE CHRONIQUEUR published a list of the members of the party's central committee: Andre Stepha, president; Mrs Gerard Dessein, vice-president; and Antonio Louis, administrator.

In this same issue of LE CHRONIQUEUR, which was published after the 11 September massacre, Joseph Etienne, Yves Jacob, and Camille Poleus Sanon wrote that what happened at Saint Jean Bosco Church should not have surprised anyone, that it was a bloody incident, but one that people could see coming.

These same LE CHRONIQUEUR officials were behind an association named Association of Independent Journalists of Haiti [Association des Journalistes Independents d'Haiti] with headquarters at No 205, Avenue Magloire Ambroise. According to documents circulating ever since the Palace Guard went and raided the RDR headquarters after 17 September, it is clear that there was a link between the RDR and several Haitian Army sectors.

For example, on 27 June 1988, late Jean-Claude Paul wrote Mr Edouard Jeanty, the general director of Telecommunications d'Haiti, to ask him to give a job to a mechanic named Fanel Julmise, a member of the RDR. On 17 March 1988, RDR administrator Antonio Louis wrote Major Joseph Baguidy, the head of the Criminal Investigations Department back then, regarding the arrest of an RDR member who had gotten into an argument with another citizen.

On 3 June 1988, the RDR's first deputy secretary general wrote Captain Ernest Ravix, commander of the military district of Saint-Marc, to inform him that an RDR delegation was going to visit Saint-Marc on Sunday 5 June. The party's general secretariat said in this letter that it had great hopes that they would (?be very happy with) this visit. Also, the RDR was able to place several teams of workers in the Department of Public Works, from team supervisors to day laborers.

We remind listeners that, back in the period around the November 1987 elections, people in the Delmas 19 area were forever asking that the Army intervene against the armed men at the RDR headquarters who were doing a lot of shooting.

Documents from the RDR headquarters might permit sectors following the development of the 1987 elections to go back and analyze, level-headedly, the reasons for a number of things, as well as the relationship that existed between certain people and the acts that were being committed back then, such as the Ruelle Vaillant massacre.

So far, 85 people have been named by the police as being Dessalines Barracks detectives.

CATH Secretary 'Booted' From Union
FL0906203089 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Mr Gabriel Miracle, organization secretary of the CATH, the Autonomous Organization of Haitian Workers, appears to have been booted out of the CATH. According to a press release from the CATH leadership, organization secretary Gabriel Miracle is no longer authorized to speak in the name of the CATH and he is not authorized to represent CATH before national or international authorities.

Foreign Relations Secretariat's Panama Communique
PA1006150389 Mexico City EL NACIONAL
in Spanish 6 Jun 89 pp 1, 13

[Text of communique issued by the Foreign Relations Secretariat on 5 June in Mexico City]

[Text] After holding a meeting with the UN Secretary General in New York this morning, Foreign Minister Fernando Solana expressed Mexico's position regarding Panama to newsmen. This position is based firmly on the principles that guide the country's foreign policy—particularly the principle of nonintervention and self-determination of peoples—in the sense that it is up to the Panamanian people themselves to solve their domestic problems. The mandate given to the OAS mission that visited Panama was restricted to reconciling the two parties, and its presence was approved by the Panamanian authorities, Foreign Secretary Solana noted.

“Concerning the Mexican Government position on the Panamanian conflict, the Foreign Relations Secretariat reiterates that Mexico, based on the inalienable principles of nonintervention, self-determination of peoples, and unrestricted respect for human rights, has resisted and will continue to resist any initiative intended to interfere in affairs that only the Panamanian people should resolve and any attempt to convert the OAS into an electoral tribunal. Mexico has expressed its support for the Torrijos-Carter treaties and pointed out the need to seek a political opening so that the various political forces on the isthmus can find ways to achieve the national agreement the Panamanian people long for.

President Salinas de Gortari's foreign policy firmly adheres to the guiding principles set forth in the Constitution of the Republic, namely, nonintervention, self-determination of peoples, prohibition of the threat or use of force, juridical equality of states, international cooperation for development, and the struggle for international peace and security.

Mexico's principled foreign policy guides the actions of Salinas, which are aimed at attaining specific objectives that are determined by the rapid and profound changes taking place internationally and at taking advantage of the current situation to improve Mexico's standing in the international community.

Mexico pursues an active foreign policy that conforms to the goals set by President Salinas de Gortari. Foremost among these goals is the strengthening and preservation of our national sovereignty.

Regarding the Panamanian conflict, the Mexican Government has stated that the resolution approved by consensus at the 21st meeting of OAS foreign ministers conforms fully to the principles that have traditionally guided Mexico's foreign policy and meets the goals of the Mexican delegation to the OAS, namely to ensure undivided respect

for the principles of nonintervention and self-determination of peoples; to prevent the OAS from becoming an electoral tribunal; to reassert the validity of the Panama Canal treaties; and to preserve Latin American unity as well as the cohesion of the Rio Group. The resolution opened the door to a negotiation and it is worth noting that this opening was confirmed by consensus by the plenum, which included the Panamanian representatives.”

Japanese Environmental Experts To Visit
OW1206044689 Tokyo KYODO in English 0417 GMT
11 Jun 89

[Text] Mexico City, June 11 KYODO—A Japanese Government team arrived here Sunday to investigate ways of aiding one of the world's most polluted cities in its cleanup efforts.

The 13-member team from the Foreign Ministry's Economic Cooperation Bureau will look at factories, automobiles, and other sources of the city's serious air pollution.

Japan has pledged to use more foreign aid money to attack Third World environmental problems. Heavy emissions trapped by the mountains ringing Mexico City have created a severe smog problem there.

The Japanese team will also meet with Urban Development and Ecology Minister Patricio Chirinos and Commerce and Industrial Development Minister Jaime Serra before leaving on June 16.

PRD Members Attack PPS-PFCRN Candidate
PA1106174589 Mexico City EL NACIONAL
in Spanish 7 Jun 89 p 4

[Text] Huerta de Gambara, Michoacan, 6 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Approximately 80 militants of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) armed with pistols, machetes, and stones attacked Heliodoro Pacheco Rosales, candidate for the Popular Socialist Party-Cardenist Front for National Reconstruction Party (PPS-PFCRN) coalition, wounding several members of his group.

Deputy Gilberto Gonzalez Gonzalez reported that as Pacheco Rosales arrived to participate in a meeting, a group headed by Marcelo Valencia Alvarez, candidate for the Ninth District, insulted him and a fight ensued.

Gonzalez Gonzalez described the incident as “uncivilized,” adding that charges will be filed against Valencia Alvarez and those responsible for this action, as well as against the election authorities.

Socialist Party Deputies End Occupation
FL0806153889 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
1501 GMT 7 Jun 89

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The Foreign Secretariat has reported that the deputies of the Popular Socialist Party (PPS) have peacefully withdrawn from

the Foreign Secretariat offices they occupied. After learning about the resolution adopted by the OAS foreign ministers, the PPS legislators—who occupied the installations last Monday [5 June]—decided to suspend their action, which was done in support of Panama.

The Foreign Secretariat said that the PPS deputies withdrew from the premises at 2200 (0400 GMT) without any major incidents.

Bank of Mexico Reports Payments Balance Deficit

PA0906213189 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish
5 Jun 89 p 8

[Report by Elvira Marcelo]

[Text] At the end of 1988, Mexico's payments balance had a \$2.9012 billion deficit. The nation's expenditures surpassed \$35.3643 billion, while its income was only \$32.4631 billion.

According to the monthly Economic Index report issued by the Bank of Mexico, during 1987, the country's finances showed a surplus of \$3.9665 billion—the highest since 1985—because its income from merchandise exports, brokerage and nonbrokerage services, transfers of funds, interest payments, and other activities totaled \$30.5686 billion against \$26.6021 billion in expenditures.

The trade balance reflected a 79 percent drop in comparison to 1987. The nation's income from merchandise exports in 1988 was \$20.6576 billion, while its merchandise import disbursements totaled \$18.9034 billion.

Concerning disbursements, payments to foreign investors in Mexico increased by 25 percent because in 1987 they totaled \$412.5 million, while in 1988 they totaled \$519.1. Within that context, in 1988, Mexico expended \$8.8911 billion in interest payments.

The Bank of Mexico document points out that, taking other factors into consideration, Mexico's reserves have dropped to \$7.127 billion. It is important to point out that merchandise imports, brokerage and nonbrokerage services, financial services, interest payments, and border travel are some of the principal expenditures that affect our balance of payments.

Mining Industry Increases Productivity in 1988

PA0906123589 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish
8 Jun 89 p 8

[Report by Gloria Oliva]

[Summary] The Energy, Mines and Parastate Industry Secretariat (SEMIP) reported that in 1988, the production of gold, silver, nonferrous minerals, steel, coal, and nonmetallic minerals grew considerably. According to SEMIP figures, gold production increased by 13.9 percent, silver by 47 percent, nonferrous minerals by 16.4 percent, and steel from 12 to 15 percent. The same report indicates that the mining sector plays an important role within the country's general economic framework due to its constant growth and competitiveness on the international market. In addition, the report stresses the effectiveness of the mining development programs SEMIP has implemented.

World Bank Grants Hydroelectric Project Loan

PA1206040589 Mexico City XHTV Television
in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Summary] According to the Finance and Public Credit Secretariat, the World Bank today granted Mexico a \$460-million loan to build two hydroelectric plants. One of the plants will be built in Nayarit State and the other in Zimapan, north of Mexico City. The plants are part of a project that will cost slightly over \$1 billion and will be completed in 7 years.

Police, Army Destroy 15 Illegal Airstrips

PA1206035189 Mexico City XHTV Television
in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Summary] In a joint antidrug operation, Army and Judicial Police operatives have discovered numerous clandestine airstrips in Chihuahua State that were being used by drug traffickers to supply drugs to international markets. According to Carlos Manuel Salas, coordinator of the campaign in Chihuahua, in only 2 months his personnel destroyed 15 airstrips, confiscated 9 light planes belonging to drug traffickers, and seized 18 tons of marijuana as well as substantial quantities of cocaine, heroin, and other drugs.

El Salvador

FMLN Denies Responsibility for Assassination

PA1306015289 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos
in Spanish to El Salvador in Spanish 0054 GMT
13 Jun 89

[Communique from the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) General Command released in El Salvador on 12 June 1989—recorded]

[Text] Concerning the death of [Salvadoran Presidency Minister] Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth, the FMLN General Command hereby reports:

1. Rodriguez' death, which occurred on 9 June, took place within the framework of a tense national situation with two well-defined characteristics: A) The regime staged a drive marked by murder, reports of missing and tortured people, repression in rural areas, military encirclements, raids, detention in the headquarters of union and humanitarian organizations, constant military harassment and attacks against university students and leaders, and the placing of obstacles to prevent war disabled from leaving the country; B) Increased disagreement between Major Roberto d'Aubuisson's followers and businessmen in ARENA [Nationalist Republican Alliance], a well-known situation.

2. As of the time this communique was released, this General Command has received no report that connects us with the death of Rodriguez. The FMLN hereby assures the Salvadoran people that we will stick to truth and act responsibly at all times. Within 72 hours, as soon as we have the necessary information, we will announce our final position clarifying whether or not the FMLN is in any way responsible for this action.

[Signed] FMLN General Command
El Salvador, 12 June 1989

Army Denies Guerrillas Downed Helicopter

PA0906224189 San Salvador Canal Doce Television
in Spanish 0300 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Report by Ernesto Rivas]

[Text] Colonel Francisco Elena Fuentes, commander of the 1st Infantry Brigade, denied today that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] downed a helicopter in Suchitoto Jurisdiction, Cuscatlan Department. Col Fuentes added that the military cordon around the National University will continue to protect the students themselves.

Col Francisco Elena Fuentes said that in the last few hours, 1st Infantry Brigade troops clashed with FMLN guerrillas in the Guazapa area. Col Fuentes asserted that the Army wounded many guerrillas in that skirmish, although he did not specify the number.

Col Fuentes also denied that the FMLN downed a helicopter in the Suchitoto area:

[Begin recording] The terrorists are circulating rumors that they downed a 1st Infantry Brigade helicopter. That is absolutely false. I was in Suchitoto when a helicopter—not one belonging to the 1st Infantry Brigade—landed there because of technical problems. That helicopter was from another component. It was not assigned to the 1st Infantry Brigade. [end recording]

As for the military surveillance at the main entrances of the National University, Col Fuentes said this surveillance will continue until the High Command orders otherwise. Col Fuentes stressed that the surveillance is not an arbitrary measure but one taken at the request of many parents. Col Fuentes asserted there are minority groups in the university that take instructions from the FMLN:

[Begin recording] There are small groups in the university that favor communism in El Salvador while they live in democracy. However, they do not think or realize that in Communist China millions of civilians, including university students, reject communism and demand democracy. [end recording]

As for the destruction of power towers and poles, Col Fuentes reiterated that the guerrillas are not harming the Armed Forces but the civilian population. The military officer condemned a recent attack on a gas station in the Sacamil neighborhood, which he said was in no way a military target.

Coprefa Reports 2-9 Jun Battle Actions

PA1106125489 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL
in Spanish 1809 GMT 10 Jun 89

[Report by the Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa; date and place not given]

[Text] Military actions in Cuscatlan and Chalatenango Departments have left five guerrillas dead and three soldiers injured, along with the destruction of a shop used to manufacture explosives. One of the clashes took place in El Zapote canton, Zacatecoluca Jurisdiction, La Paz Department, where Armed Forces Engineers Military Detachment troops surprised a column of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], resulting in three guerrillas dead and three soldiers injured.

A similar situation took place in Los Matariego village, San Jose Guayabal, Cuscatlan Department, which was being patrolled by Atlacatl Battalion troops, resulting in two guerrillas dead and the confiscation of 122 rounds of ammunition, 5 AK-47 rifle cartridge clips, and explosives. Bracamonte Battalion troops located and destroyed a truck used by the FMLN to manufacture explosives in El Amatillo settlement, Las Vueltas village, Chalatenango Department, where five booby traps, 2 quintals of iron pieces, 25 pounds of black powder, 11 pounds of powdered aluminum, and other materials

were confiscated. After a combing operation that took place in Quebrada de Agua settlement, Nueva Concepcion Jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department, Artillery Brigade troops confiscated more than 1,500 rounds of ammunition, 40 fragmentation grenades, and an undetermined amount of (?TNT) sticks found inside a hide-out.

Summarizing the casualties: 29 guerrillas were killed and at least 35 were injured in clashes with the Armed Forces between 2-9 June. In addition, the following was confiscated: 32 rifles of various gauges, 4 submachineguns, 5 rocket launchers, 7 automatic pistols, 9,184 rounds of ammunition, 42 Claymore mines, 115 booby traps, 34 sticks of (?TNT), 784 detonating caps, 525 pounds of black powder, and powdered aluminum and various materials used to manufacture explosives.

During the same period, the FMLN guerrillas murdered 9 peasants and injured 20 in various attacks and kidnapped 11 persons whom they took to an undisclosed location—possibly to conscript them into the FMLN ranks. The FMLN also totally or partially destroyed six private homes, five commercial vehicles, one National Administration for Telecommunications office, one gasoline service station, and a coffee mill warehouse, worsening our country's unemployment problem.

Regarding the assassination of Presidency Minister Dr Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth, many public, business, and government officials and citizens in general have condemned the vile attack carried out by FMLN urban guerrillas. The FMLN also killed driver Juan Humberto Clara Carcamo and orderly Benjamin Perez Jimenez, who were unarmed because they were not Rodriguez Porth's bodyguards.

Despite these serious violations of human rights, an airtight silence has been kept by those organizations that act as FMLN fronts, such as the nongovernment Salvadoran Human Rights Commission; National Union of Salvadoran Workers; Bread, Land, Work, and Freedom Movement; Christian Committee for Displaced Salvadorans; Marianela Garcia Villa Committee pro-Freedom of Relatives of Political Prisoners, Murdered and Missing People in El Salvador; Salvadoran Workers National Union Federation; National University student organizations; and others.

Salvadorans, as citizens, you are aware of the current situation the FMLN is making us go through; you should defend the country along with your armed forces so the guerrillas cannot impose communist slavery upon us.

Guerrillas Report 7-11 Jun Fighting *PA1006181489*

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 10 June carries approximately 4 minutes of reports on recent fighting involving Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas.

In its first report, the radio says FMLN units attacked "paramilitary forces" at 0000 on 9 June at the Resbaladero canton, Coatepeque Jurisdiction, Santa Ana Department. The report says: "These paramilitary forces fled in disarray and the house used as their headquarters was destroyed." The report claims the capture of the following equipment and weapons as a result of the attack: "1 G-3 rifle, 30 belts, 30 harnesses, 15 ponchos, 24 canteens, and 7 mines. This is the result of our actions only 15 km from the city of Santa Ana."

Another report states that the FMLN inflicted five casualties on "paramilitary forces" in an attack on a Civil Defense post at Soyopango, adding: "The paramilitary forces haphazardly returned fire, wounding several civilians. This action was followed by sabotage to the electrical system."

The radio also reports an attack on the Atlacatl Battalion at San Jose Guayabal Jurisdiction on 7 June, inflicting one casualty in Santa Ines canton. It claims that "over the last few days, the FMLN has inflicted dozens of casualties on the Atlacatl Battalion."

The radio says that FMLN "sniper attacks are being used to wear down the Armed Forces." It reports that two casualties were inflicted "on the enemy in (name indistinct) as a result of these attacks." Another soldier was reportedly killed in this same area when he stepped on a land mine.

In conclusion, the station reports an FMLN attack on the Arce Battalion at 1100 on 8 June, "while it was moving between Seseori and San Sebastian canton, in which the enemy sustained (number indistinct) casualties."

Deputy Planning Minister on Deficit *PA1206125889 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jun 89*

[Text] Deputy Planning Minister (Ernesto Altschul) has asserted that the financial deficit this year will exceed 1 billion colones because of El Salvador's large foreign and domestic financial imbalance. He added that the new government has found El Salvador in crisis in all areas.

(Altschul) added that the deficit has increased 70 percent during the past few years. In 1984 the deficit was approximately 300 million colones; it has now reached the extremely high level of 1 billion colones, he said.

Correction to Confirmation of Assassination *PA1006000589*

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Government Confirms Assassination of Minister," published in the 12 June Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 14:

Column two, last paragraph, first sentence should read:
...Antonio Rodriguez Porth, a veteran politician who ran for... (rewording)

Guatemala

Cerezo, Quayle Discuss Central America

PA1206165989 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1610 GMT
12 Jun 89

[Text] Guatemala City, 12 Jun (DPA)—Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo and U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle met this morning and discussed the Central American situation, particularly the progress in the Esquipulas II peace plan. Quayle is visiting Guatemala for a few hours at the start of his 4-day trip to Central America.

Both Guatemalan and U.S. spokesmen indicated that Quayle reiterated to Cerezo U.S. support for Guatemala's democratic government. This support was initially expressed by President George Bush a month ago following the frustrated coup d'etat by dissatisfied officers on 9 May.

They also discussed better terms for Guatemalan clothing exports to the United States in view of U.S. trade officials' announcement of quotas that, according to Guatemala, will affect many assembly plants and thousands of Guatemalan workers.

Quayle arrived in Guatemala last night and began his official activities at 0730 (1330 GMT) today, when he met at his hotel with Vice President Roberto Carpio Nicolle and three Guatemalan presidential candidates: Jorge Carpio Nicolle of the Union of the National Center, socialist Mario Solorzano, and conservative Jorge Serrano Elias.

Quayle's entourage is headed by U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala James Michel and includes Washington officials who are experts in Central American policies. President Cerezo was accompanied at the meeting with Quayle by Foreign Relations Minister Mario Palencia, Defense Minister General Hector Gramajo, and other top-level Presidency officials. Because of Minister Gramajo's presence at the meeting, it is assumed the talks also included U.S. military cooperation to Guatemala and the arms situation in Central America. It was reported that the conversations were held in English, because both Cerezo and Gramajo speak this language.

Quayle will depart for El Salvador at noon and continue the second phase of his tour to the region. Prior to his departure, he will meet with U.S. Embassy personnel and families; he will give a brief statement to the media.

Strict security measures have been implemented during Quayle's visit to Guatemala. The measures include the clearing of streets that Quayle and his entourage's car caravan would use; thorough inspection of all persons who entered the Camino Real Hotel, where Quayle and

his entourage are staying; and use of trained dogs to detect explosives. In addition to the security agents Quayle brought with him, approximately 400 Guatemalan police agents protect the U.S. Vice President's life.

Express 'Concern' Over Panama

PA1206191889 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1850 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 12 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle and Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo today expressed their "concern" over the Panamanian crisis caused by the annulment of that country's elections. [passage omitted]

President Cerezo described the meeting with Quayle as "interesting," stating that they agreed on the need to seek legal political actions so the electoral process will be respected and the Panamanian opposition will be supported.

"Our basic concern is respect for democracy and Panama's independence and autonomy in its relations with the United States."

Regarding the regional peace treaty, the Guatemalan president expressed "concern" about its stagnation. He said the democratic opening in Nicaragua should be strengthened and that the means must be found to achieve peace in El Salvador and the entire region.

Cerezo and Quayle also analyzed bilateral relations, and the United States promised to support Guatemala in achieving economic growth.

Quayle is scheduled to leave for Honduras today, the second country he will visit on his Central American tour.

Nicaragua

Ortega: Quayle Seeks Support Against Nicaragua

PA1306015789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2309 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Managua, 12 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega declared today that U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle's tour through Central America, except for Nicaragua, seeks "to isolate the Sandinist revolution."

Quayle arrived in Guatemala on Sunday and visited Honduras today. He will visit El Salvador tomorrow and will conclude his tour of the region by visiting Costa Rica on Wednesday.

The Nicaraguan president stressed that the U.S. vice president is seeking to win the support of the area presidents for his strategy against the Nicaraguan revolution.

"I trust," Ortega noted, "that the Central American presidents will not let themselves be blackmailed by Quayle and will continue to support the peace agreements that we signed in El Salvador (last 14 February)."

The Sandinist president said that both the U.S. Government and Congress have continued to discuss a strategy to develop a policy of "interference" in Nicaragua.

According to Ortega, President George Bush wants the interventionist actions to be carried out by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), while the congress prefers that it be done openly by organizations or institutions.

"We will not tolerate any type of interference that attempts to destabilize the Nicaraguan electoral process, as the United States is trying to do," Ortega warned.

The Sandinist president said that he recently warned John Leonard, the U.S. charge d'affaires in Nicaragua, that he must try to establish a "symmetry" between the diplomatic missions in both countries.

He also announced "a freeze" on visits by U.S. diplomats to Nicaragua, such as the visit of Kathleen Barmon, labor attache for Central America based in Honduras, who was expelled from Managua last 25 May.

"These visits will not be allowed as long as a ceiling is not established for Nicaraguan diplomats who can travel to Washington and of U.S. diplomats who can travel to Managua," Ortega stated. On the student protests in China, which have been put down by the army of that Asian country, Ortega said that in this case "a double moral standard is being used."

Ortega asked how many condemnations were issued when 500 people were killed in Venezuela as a result of the civil unrest in that country in late February.

"Now that violence has broken out in China and many have been killed, protests abound," the Sandinist leader stated.

"Violence and human rights violations must be condemned wherever they occur, regardless of the regime or its ideology," the president stated.

"We cannot applaud violence in China, just as we did not applaud the violence in Venezuela or the systematic violence by the United States in the world, particularly against the Nicaraguan people," Ortega stressed.

The president made these statements after receiving the credentials in Managua of Kofi Awoonor and Orsoryn Erdene, the new ambassadors of Ghana and Mongolia, respectively, to Nicaragua.

Humberto Ortega Surveys Conflict With U.S.
PA1306033189 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
12 Jun 89 pp 3,4,5

[Statement by Army General and Defense Minister Humberto Ortega Saavedra, member of the FSLN National Directorate and commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army; date and place not given]

[Text]

I. The U.S.-Nicaragua Conflict

1. The remaining months of this year and the first half of 1990 will be characterized by a great and dynamic tension, resulting from the various clashes and friction that have been provoked by the prevailing state of contradiction between the reactionary policies of the United States and the conservative policies of revolutionary Nicaragua—at every level of the political, military, ideological, economic, and moral confrontation.

2. The United States refuses to accept consolidation of the Sandinist process, and it is uselessly trying to cover up the overwhelming defeat suffered by its strategic plans, a fact that is proven by several aspects:

a) The Sandinist People's Revolution [RPS] has managed, despite thousands of obstacles, to reduce the mercenary forces to their current irreversible trend of political, moral, and military disintegration—a process that will inevitably cause the collapse of the counterrevolutionary forces in the near future, thus marking the total defeat of the mercenary military option. This option has basically survived thanks to the sanctuary that the United States has guaranteed in Honduran territory.

b) The RPS has managed to build, strengthen, and consolidate the National Defense System with the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] as its backbone, based on the RPS doctrine that mobilizes the entire nation—led by the youths, workers, and peasants—to defend the homeland's sacred soil against an eventual armed Yankee intervention.

The United States sought to prevent this achievement by distracting the EPS with a mercenary war and by exerting pressure at the international level.

3. The United States has yet to accept consolidation of the Sandinist change even though its firm, just, and flexible nature is evident 10 years after the triumph of the revolution. The United States has yet to agree to carry out serious and reasonable negotiation with the Nicaraguan Government to immediately attain the much-desired peace and guarantee a framework for peaceful coexistence based on mutual respect between the United States and Nicaragua, in the future.

4. Within this context of indecision, warmongering groups in the U.S. are negatively interfering with the more pragmatic groups that sponsor a negotiated solution with Sandinist Nicaragua. However, it is also true that such warmongering groups no longer have the opportunities that Ronald Reagan allowed and encouraged; they now seek another opportunity within the situation that has resulted from the Nicaraguan electoral process. According to their plans, these warmongering groups will only recognize as honest and democratic an election that decrees that the Sandinists have been defeated at the ballot box—no matter how clear and evident the Nicaraguan people's victory may be, as happened in the 1984 elections when Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra was elected president.

5. The truth is that the United States at present still cold-heartedly supports the failed counterrevolutionary military project, which is clearly intended to bleed and wear down even further the impoverished Nicaraguan nation, which inherited the backwardness of past domination and is burdened by the present decade's unjust war of aggression.

The United States encourages mercenary-force activities inside our country, keeping most of these forces in Honduran territory, to eventually use them in an escalating war as a "mask" or "advance team." It would attempt to use an armed conflict between Honduras and Nicaragua as an excuse for allowing Yankee troops to join directly in the conflict and to destroy the Nicaraguan revolution, unless Nicaragua were to give in and allow the revolutionary process to be taken over. The strategy is to force a surrender while on the verge of intervention.

6. While this goes on, the United States is doubling its efforts to destabilize the revolutionary power as much as possible, using the Sandinist system's democratic freedoms and ongoing electoral process for its purposes. They move around their pawns, made up of right-wing reactionary and treasonous forces and their foreign agents. They use diplomatic cover and certain economic, social, political, and religious circles in the country to support the destabilization plans.

7. Likewise, the United States is stepping up its campaign of blackmail and threats in various parts of the world to isolate and lessen the legitimacy of the Nicaraguan revolutionary government. The United States is making a special effort right now to ignore the certain reelection triumph of the Sandinists in the 1990 elections.

8. At the same time, the United States is continuing its cruel Reagan policies of starving the humble people of Nicaragua by prolonging the economic blockade and trying to get their allies to do likewise.

9. The United States is also heightening tensions with the Nicaraguan Government by blaming the Sandinists for the Salvadoran political and military crisis. To a lesser degree,

they also blame the Nicaraguan revolution for the armed insurgency in other countries of the area, trying to hide the fact that—just as in the case of El Salvador—the root cause of these problems lies in the differences resulting from the types of ruling regimes imposed upon these peoples—regimes that have been mainly supported and dominated by the United States itself.

10. The most reactionary groups in the United States are determined to erase, by destroying the revolution, the example that the Sandinist revolutionary process has set for Latin America. The mixed economy, political pluralism, and nonalignment could bring together in a great and powerful alliance all the Latin American countries' political and social groups that are struggling to survive while facing the negative and explosive effects of the current international economic order, which is directed by the most reactionary and conservative groups in the United States.

11. This explains why the United States, in the specific case of Nicaragua, has done everything possible to prevent a functioning and stable mixed economy, and why it has applied economic measures that affect not only the humble, hard-working people of Nicaragua, but also the private sector, which the United States prefers to push down to ruin rather than permit it to integrate actively into the Sandinist mixed-economy model, which in a gradual fashion can feasibly face the critical economic situation in Nicaragua. The country's economic crisis was worsened by the criminal and clumsy U.S. policy on Nicaragua, especially during the two Ronald Reagan administrations.

12. What really troubles the most conservative and reactionary sectors of the United States is the development of anti-imperialist and Latin American positions in the face of the domination that the United States has traditionally held over our nations. This is what really troubles them, not that this or that regime is or is not capitalist. What the United States does not want is opposition. There is the case of self-styled communists and socialists in the traditional Nicaraguan left who are viewed favorably and supported by the Yankee Embassy with the same zeal that that embassy supports the strongest representatives of the right, because both are together in serving the antinational interests of the United States against the revolution.

13. Summarizing, the contradictions between the United States and Nicaragua have not yet been resolved. The warmongers who represent the most reactionary and conservative sectors in power in the United States will try to prevent a solution by encouraging economic, diplomatic, and political aggression, as well as an increase in warlike activities to destroy the revolution. Pragmatic sectors in the United States, if they act more firmly, could prevail over the most reactionary elements and definitely open the road to detente, dialogue, peace, negotiations, and peaceful coexistence between two regimes that are different, but have aspects in common.

In Nicaragua, the Sandinists will continue to struggle for peace, for a reasonable negotiated political solution that would demonstrate that the Nicaraguan people can have respectful relations with the United States without ceasing to be revolutionary, patriotic, and Sandinist.

II. Main Tasks in This Crucial Moment

The following main tasks, which the Nicaraguan people carry out with sacrifice and revolutionary enthusiasm, have the common goal of creating better conditions to continue to victoriously counter the current aggression, as well as the definite decision that the United States may make during these months, possibly upon the conclusion of our election process. The tasks are particularly important in case the warmongers manage to prevail over the pragmatists.

1. Successful implementation of the election process that will conclude with the February 1990 elections represents a powerful weapon to combat the possibility of an armed confrontation. Consequently, the Sandinists' evident victory—in the eyes of the world and the U.S. people—in the elections will represent a devastating blow that may favorably influence the negotiating and pragmatic groups of power in the United States and help neutralize the more reactionary groups that advocate a war.

Therefore, the majority of the revolutionary, dignified, and patriotic people will cast their ballots to reelect Sandinism on 21 February; and they will clearly advocate Sandinism in our streets to prove that the Nicaraguan people always win, without fraud, despite the CIA campaign.

The electoral process will also help strengthen Sandinist hegemony in the working masses and youths, as well as in a majority of the people. On this occasion, Sandinist hegemony will be strengthened with an open and impassioned political and ideological confrontation to counter, cut off, and eliminate reactionary redoubts; and the demagogic and slanderous campaigns carried out by the enemies of the revolution.

The current freedom of the press allows CIA media like LA PRENSA to receive millions from the Yankee embassy in a vain attempt to kill the revolutionary spirit, dignity, and pride of our people and nation. The struggle has been waged openly until now so it will only benefit the Nicaraguan people, who have experienced the most difficult battles, and will temper their ardent red and black hearts like steel. They will not let anyone soil their homeland's blue and white flag.

2. In addition to their great efforts to carry out the priority electoral task during the upcoming months, our people will also engage in vital tasks to defend our attacked Nicaragua. The tasks include:

a. Continue to actively reject, with all our weapons anywhere within our national boundaries, the mercenary forces which still insist on shedding the people's blood and refuse to recognize their strategic defeat.

b. Streamline the mechanisms of our National Defense System to quickly mobilize the people organized in the reserve and militias in the case of an eventual warmongering buildup to prepare for a Yankee invasion.

These vital tasks will be carried out by fulfilling 100 percent of the goals of the Patriotic Military Service, both concerning recruitment and registration of the 1972 generation, as well as the mobilization of reserve and militia forces for the different tasks of the National Defense Plan. The slogan is: Militia Reserve Cubs "Always Alert."

3. We are carrying out the major tasks mentioned above, just as we are implementing the severe and restrictive measures adopted by the Nicaraguan Government to contain and control the destructive inflation. These measures must be fully supported by all the socioeconomic sectors of the country. The severe anti-inflation measures are necessarily restrictive in some areas, such as defense. This does not mean that the quality or efficiency of the military or security areas will be adversely affected. It does require the creative fulfillment of different tasks in different areas, since at this critical juncture the central government cannot be expected to allocate new resources or meet the just demands of the working and fighting people for better wages and living conditions.

Regarding production, the revolutionary government will continue to promote all those policies that serve as an incentive to gradually reactivate the economic sector. This is essential to take advantage of the harsh anti-inflation measures shouldered with dedication by our people. In the country's daily economic life, a true socioeconomic pact must be secured to permit the development of a responsible position of national interest to save the economy for the benefit of all.

III. Our Strength Lies in the Truth and in Our Fighting

Morale

The Sandinist people, who are actively undertaking the vital tasks mentioned previously, will face in the coming months one of the fiercest campaigns in the political-ideological field ever carried out by the Yankee embassy and the CIA. In this plan, the parties opposed to Sandinism and their media spokesmen, as well as the reactionary religious pulpits, will spew all the venom of their slander and "election" demagoguery to confuse the people. They will do so particularly by way of the country's difficult socioeconomic situation. The opposition and reactionaries in general will strive to obtain a short-term

solution to the situation. This is a solution that the reactionary right-wing sector supported by the United States was unable to provide in more than 100 years of past control.

The CIA will provide various means to the right-wing opposition to try to lure the people, including "booze," the "tamales" [nacatamal], and "money"—just as in the past election campaigns, when our people did not have the awareness they have today and were deceived and manipulated by the politicians.

In the face of the enemy's dirty campaign, the Sandinist people have strength in truth, and truth will not lead the Sandinists to electoral demagoguery. Sandinists truthfully explain the difficult economic situation we are enduring, but do not deny that we are now doing better than we did in the past, and that in the future, a future of peace, we will certainly be able to resolve the economic and social problems that are not being resolved now.

The Sandinist people will face with their strength the millionaire machinery stained with blood that the CIA is already making available to the rightist opposition and its main spokesmen. The strength of the people lies in the revolutionary transformations that have taken place over the past 10 years despite the war. The people's strength lies in the democratic liberties that reaction and imperialism did not allow before and that now guarantee that the Army, security organizations, and police do not repress the people and do not act as foremen for reactionary elements in defending their rights as exploiters, as in the past. The people's strength lies in the support, admiration, and respect that the entire world has for Nicaragua because of its firm position on nonalignment, dignity, and self-determination in the face of Yankee aggression.

The strength of the people lies fundamentally in their commitment with blood that has been spilled since the last century to have a revolutionary process like our irreversible march since 19 July 1979. The strength of the people lies in the young blood that has been spilled, during these years of an unjust war imposed on our children, elderly citizens, women, and people in general. The people's strength lies in their firm commitment to eternally venerate our heroes and martyrs and to show respect for the war victims, the wounded, and the handicapped of this grand and sacred armed crusade to defend national sovereignty and the revolution, by treating them honorably and by granting them an honorable place in society. The people's strength lies in the will to make sacrifices now to secure for the future the material well-being of the populace, and to secure a future without pain and suffering for the children, unlike today's children who unjustly have to suffer because of aggression still being maintained.

Contras Attack Hydroelectric Plant, Dam
PY0906190589 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1750 GMT
9 Jun 89

[Text] Managua, 9 Jun (EFE)—It was reported today that several people were injured in an attack launched on 8 June by a "contras" group against a hydroelectric

plant. The report added that the attack caused a blackout in Jinotega, a city located at 160 km north of Managua.

According to the official Sandinist radio "Voz de Nicaragua" the "contras" launched a mortar attack, however, the radio did not specify the number of people injured in the attack.

The radio station reported that anti-Sandinists launched a "terrorist" attack at 2200 local time on Thursday on the Centro America hydroelectric dam which is located at 30 km West of Jinotega. It added that the attack caused considerable damage.

D'Escoto Protest to Baker on Power Plant Raid
PA1306154489 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
10 Jun 89 p 5

["Note" from Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker; date not given]

[Text] Your Excellency Mr James Baker III

U.S. Secretary of State

Mr Secretary:

I again address you to vigorously protest the continuous acts of terrorism perpetrated by mercenary groups at the service of your government, the most recent of which I describe as follows:

At 2235 on 8 June, a group of Somozist mercenaries, whose number has not been determined, attacked the Centro-America hydroelectric plant, 16 km from Jinotega. This 50-megawatt plant provides power to the National Interconnected System. The mercenaries used rifle fire, RPG-7 rockets, and mortars in the treacherous attack. Four mortar shells hit the protective walls of the transformers. The criminal action wounded one of our troops.

The action clearly shows that the policy of state terrorism and violations of international law, which the International Court of Justice condemned in its historic 27 June 1986 ruling, continues in effect and that your government persists in rejecting the obligation of halting military and paramilitary actions against Nicaragua.

Your government not only rejects and ignores the desire for peace that the Central American presidents expressed when they signed the joint declaration of Costa del Sol, but also exerts pressures and threatens the other Central American countries so they will undermine the agreed-upon peace initiatives, particularly the joint plan for the demobilization, repatriation, and relocation of the contra forces.

The actions speak for themselves. Opposing the Central American presidents' will, the fruits of the [U.S. Congress] bipartisan agreement have been fruits of death,

terrorism, and greater destruction for our peoples, with the consequent worsening of the Central American situation and the stagnation of the regional initiatives that had been progressing.

The figures objectively reveal this tragic situation. From the signing of the Costa del Sol agreements on 15 February to 30 May, there have been more than 100 counterrevolutionary attacks on civilian, economic, and military targets. In that period, the number of civilian victims, the favorite target of the terrorist groups, reached 163—37 dead, 32 wounded, and 94 kidnapped. Our Army troops have sustained 224 casualties. The mercenary forces sustained 456 casualties when their attacks, which violated the government's unilaterally established cessation of offensive military operations, were repelled.

The Nicaraguan Government calls on the U.S. Government to forsake this bloody terrorist policy against the Nicaraguan people and to respect and fulfill the solemn commitments imposed by international law on all states, particularly your country, which has been condemned by the world's highest court because of an illegal, immoral, and adventurist policy we have seen implemented in the actions I have described.

I take this opportunity to reiterate my esteem.

Miguel D'Escoto Brockman
Foreign Minister

Cuadra Says Contras Incapable of Major Action
PA1206221889 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1200 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Vice Defense Minister Major General Joaquin Cuadra said yesterday that the counterrevolutionaries who operate inside Nicaragua are unable to carry out any major actions.

In remarks to Radio Sandino, Cuadra stated that the contras keep moving from their camps in Honduras to Nicaragua, attacking small objectives and civilians, and evade any confrontation with the Sandinist fighters out of fear.

Cuadra said that about 1,000 to 1,500 contras are involved in this type of action—such as the recent attack on the Central American hydroelectric plant in Jinotega. They attack places they consider weak, Cuadra noted, adding that they are unable to carry out any major attacks. Cuadra disclosed that they are active in the northern area of Region Five and the southern sector of Region Six.

Speaking at an event held yesterday to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the takeover of the Somoza Police Section, Cuadra added that the contras will be crushed in any terrain, because they will come up against the force of the people.

Cuadra said that the contras who returned to Managua yesterday were defeated militarily, which is why they are now talking of beginning a civic struggle. Cuadra, a member of the internal front in the people's insurrection in Managua 10 years ago, added: Yesterday, like today, they were known for their opportunism. These individuals who have come to Managua because of the generosity of the revolution were always losers, he remarked. Cuadra recalled that many of them joined the Sandinist National Liberation Front when they could no longer continue in Somoza's game. They became convinced that the people's victory was near. However, he said, that they were left behind by history when they abandoned the revolution and joined the counterrevolution. They now want a claim on the government and are trying to snatch revolutionary power away, Cuadra said. However, they have already been defeated because they are unable to offer something just and dignified to the people, because they only follow Yankee orders.

Cesar, Former Contra Leaders Sign Amnesty Paper
PA1206150989 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1240 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] A group of eight former contra leaders has arrived in the country to join the electoral process. This group was headed by Alfredo Cesar and Alvaro Chamorro Mora, a Granada mayor before the revolutionary victory.

Approximately 20 people and Guillermo Potoy, president of the Social Democratic Party [PSD], welcomed the eight opposition leaders. After these leaders signed the document accepting the government amnesty, they went to Ciudad Jardin Park in Managua, where they held a rally with some peasants brought from the country's rural areas.

Potoy spoke on behalf of the PSD at the park, where approximately 1,000 people and more than 60 national and international reporters gathered. Potoy said the opposition will choose a single candidate to win the elections against the Sandinists and snatch away power from them.

Cesar also spoke. He said the opposition will make economic recovery possible but failed to say how this would be done. He did not mention the problems caused by the war.

The demonstrators marched to the PSD office, where they voiced the usual attacks on the government.

When Cesar arrived in the country, he said he thinks it was a positive step by the government to have allowed them to return to participate in the 1990 electoral process. He added that the electoral law is the specific framework in which to conduct civic political activities.

[Begin recording] [Cesar] I think our return is the result of the government's will, because it signed agreements promising to permit this return. However, I feel this is a constructive attitude of the government. We cannot advance unless there is a new attitude. This attitude is contemplated in the Esquipulas II and El Salvador agreements.

[Reporter] Does the electoral framework allow you to present your candidates and carry out your campaign?

[Cesar] This electoral framework is the specific way to express ourselves in civic-political activity. The important thing is that this must be a clean and just electoral process in which the people can clearly express their will.
[end recording]

Cesar said the U.S. economic embargo should be gradually lifted to the extent that the agreements are implemented. He noted that the lifting of this embargo, which the White House extended for another year, must start soon so the country can begin to recover. According to Cesar, this lifting of the embargo must be subjected to political advances and regional agreements.

At the Ciudad Jardin Park rally, the PSD leaders had Cesar speak over poor sound equipment, so he could barely be heard. In contrast, when they held the rally at the PSD office, they used excellent sound equipment. None of the speakers at the park or the PSD office represented any of the National Opposition Unity parties; they were all PSD members. These leaders had PSD members and bystanders listened to a song about the U.S. flag instead of the Socialist International anthem. The lyrics of the song, played by a cheap band, stressed: We pledge allegiance to the red, white, and blue—the colors of the U.S. flag. The song should have mentioned the PSD's yellow, white, and blue flag.

One of the two planes that brought the former contra leaders—a private plane and a Venezuelan Air Force plane—did not have permission to fly over Nicaraguan skies or land in this country. However, the government allowed it to land as another sign of its flexibility.

Cesar refused to comment about some funds linked to drug trafficking that allowed the mercenaries to obtain weapons they used to stain our nation with blood.

FRG Minister Outlines Talks With Daniel Ortega
PA1006031289 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Report on "exclusive" interview with FRG Economic Cooperation Minister Juergen Warnke by unidentified reporter after Warnke's meeting with President Daniel Ortega; date and place not given—passages within quotation marks are recorded in German fading into Spanish translation]

[Text] [Reporter] The FRG official expressed satisfaction with the results of the meeting he held with President Ortega.

[Warnke] "We talked about politics. Our visit was taken as evidence of our country's desire to contribute to the Central American peace efforts. Within this framework, the FRG is giving its full support to democratization, free elections, and respect for human rights in all five Central American countries, because we feel that these conditions are of primary importance. Concerning these conditions, I want to tell you that President Ortega pointed out to us that he will attempt to find areas of agreement with opposition parties, religious organizations, and with other Central American governments. He also expressed his desire for and enumerated the measures he has taken to ensure free elections and freedom of expression."

[Reporter] The FRG official also commented on the election process and said this:

[Warnke] "The Nicaraguan Government has already taken the right steps to further free elections, media freedom, and respect for human rights. After my meeting with President Ortega, I can say that there are possibilities that more steps will be taken in this direction [words indistinct]."

[Reporter] "You discussed specific deadlines for reaching agreements on economic and election issues. What were the conclusions of these talks?"

[Warnke] "We believe that more steps will be taken to guarantee free elections. A more extensive legislative ruling must be attained—one that will encompass more measures than those already included. We are therefore very pleased that the president said that he will meet with opposition parties to discuss the forthcoming elections. We paid close attention to what he said."

[Reporter] "Did you discuss concrete actions to further the reconstruction of the Atlantic coast area?"

[Warnke] "In this regard, we had already promised that we would provide the Nicaraguan Government with more means to implement projects in the Atlantic coast area. Thus, [words indistinct] there was no need to discuss the subject further. However, regarding the elections, we expressed our willingness to contribute technical and general support to ensure free elections without manipulation, to ensure the free and unadulterated expression of the Nicaraguan people. We are willing to contribute and to cooperate with both the Nicaraguan Government and the spectrum of Nicaraguan opposition parties—which range from conservative to communist ideologies—during the election process, if other countries are also willing to do so. We know, for example, that Venezuela has also offered its cooperation in this area."

[Reporter] Juergen Warnke commented on his current trip to Costa Rica and Nicaragua and the talks he held in Nicaragua with representatives from different groups. He said that he was pleased with President Ortega's decision to resume dialogue with the opposition parties.

[Warnke] "I would like to summarize the results of my trip: I found that difficulties still exist in attaining democratization in Nicaragua. I believe, however, that President Ortega's willingness—as expressed during our talks—to resume dialogue with opposition parties is encouraging. The dialogue and its results will demonstrate if these efforts are successful."

[Reporter] Warnke said that the future of FRG-Nicaraguan economic cooperation will depend on Nicaragua's democratization. He added that during this trip, he noted that the Nicaraguan Government is willing to advance this process.

Ortega Announces Salary Change, Other Measures
PA1206214589 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
2010 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] President Daniel Ortega Saavedra has announced a readjustment to the national social salary fund that will affect the income of workers whose salaries are included in the budget. The national social salary fund will be readjusted 36 percent for all employees whose salaries are included in the budget, except the health and education workers, whose salaries will be readjusted 50 percent. The salary readjustment will be handled by the individual government agencies, which can reduce administrative expenses and transfer the savings for use in the salary readjustments.

Ortega also announced that fuel used by the people—including butane gas, diesel, and kerosene—will be subsidized. The president of the republic also announced other measures, such as importing staples that are currently very expensive on the local market, in an effort to regulate prices and protect workers' salaries. The salaries will also be protected because no new currency will be issued in June, an anti-inflationary measure that will make essential articles more available to the workers.

Government Devalues Cordoba 110 Percent
PA1206163289 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1214 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] In its continuation of defending exports in the face of fluctuations in domestic prices, the Central Bank's Board of Directors has established a new official exchange rate: 20,000 cordobas per dollar. It also has decided to establish interest rates on time deposits on a weekly basis. In the case of deposits of over 1 month, it can be agreed that the interest be paid each month or that it be capitalized at the end of the period.

For the week beginning today, interest rates will be 30 and 31 percent for 1- and 2-month term deposits. Time deposits between 3 and 6 months will receive 32 percent, and those between 6 months and 1 year will receive 33 percent. Any funds deposited for more than 1 year will receive 34 percent per month [as heard].

In addition, it was decided that weekly rates will also be applied to deposits that have already been made.

Through a communique, the Central Bank announced a 110.53-percent cordoba devaluation. According to this communique, effective today, the U.S. dollar will be sold and bought for 20,000 cordobas on the official market.

In light with this new change, the Nicaraguan Energy Institute's General Directorate for Hydrocarbons announced new fuel prices, which will not affect kerosene and liquified gas. A gallon of gasoline that had cost 17,700 cordobas will now cost 37,200 cordobas, an increase of 110.2 percent. A gallon of diesel that had cost 11,500 cordobas will now cost 17,400 cordobas, a 51.3-percent increase. Kerosene will still be worth 11,400 cordobas per gallon. Similarly, prices for liquified gas will remain the same: the 10-pound cylinder costs 9,400 cordobas, the 25-pound cylinder costs 23,500 cordobas, and the 100-pound cylinder costs 103,450 cordobas.

Opposition Group Announces Political Objectives
PA1206142789 Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish
2300 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Communique issued by the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement—date and place not given]

[Text] To our Nicaraguan Democratic Movement [MDN] brothers, to all Nicaraguans, and to the international community:

With the legalization of the MDN and with the acceptance of its membership by the opposition's Group of 14, the MDN leaders in exile have initiated their return to Managua to continue their civic struggle without surrendering, at the side of the Nicaraguan opposition to achieve true democracy in Nicaragua.

Aware that right now the people mostly want democracy, peace, and democratic coexistence among Nicaraguans, we are returning to the country with a patriotic spirit, without seeking power quotas or political arrangements; we are putting the interests of the suffering people of Nicaragua ahead of party and personal interests.

Because of this, the MDN National Council has resolved:

1. To struggle for the democratization of Nicaragua in the civic and legal arena;
2. To strengthen the domestic civic opposition so united it becomes a viable alternative to replace the Sandinist National Liberation Front through free elections;
3. Not to participate independently in the February 1990 elections process; the MDN will participate in the framework of a civic opposition with a single election platform and presidential ticket;

4. Not to seek power quotas from an authentic civic opposition and will not compete for nominations for its members; the MDN will accept the nominations of others as long as those nominations do not weaken the unity of the opposition and as long as they are a product of opposition unity;

5. To have exemplary dedication to work and unity and not to be sectarian or unselfish;

6. To promote unity, democracy, nationalism, social democracy, and militancy, and to be firm;

7. To organize the MDN in a functional fashion.

[Signed] Executive Directorate

Roberto Urroz, president

Frank Samper, vice president

Sacarias Hernandez, secretary general

Alfredo Guzman, secretary of finances

Juan F. Castillo, treasurer

Jaime Vega, secretary of international relations

Nestor Matute, secretary of public relations

Reinaldo Hernandez, president of the disciplinary court

Alfonso Robelo, political adviser

Fatherland and Liberty

MDN

Panama

Noriega Discusses Elections, 'Decolonization'

PA1206120189 Panama City Telecinco Television
in Spanish 0007 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Interview with General Manuel Antonio Noriega by journalist Rafael Vergara at the Panajungla Training Center in Teribe, Bocas del Toro Province; date not given—recorded; monitored in progress]

[Text] [Noriega] ...a great belligerency and experience.

Taking into account the size of the Panamanian population and the size of our territory, women in this country occupy very high posts. There are women who are regular employees, heads of departments, heads of institutions, ministers, and members of the Supreme Court of Justice. Women occupy a wide range of posts. They compete with each other to a certain extent.

On top of that, there is another problem. They ask for more. [Noriega laughs] Women say there will be a female presidential candidate in the next presidential election. I do not know whether that woman will be a second or third candidate, but there will be a female candidate in the next presidential election.

[Vergara] I believe a woman, whose surname was Alfaro, was the one who made the cry for independence in Panama. Am I right?

[Noriega] Yes, exactly. During the struggle against the Spanish crown in Los Santos Province, Rufina Alfaro made the cry for independence and led the population in its occupation of the Spaniards' barracks.

[Vergara] Is there any battalion named after her?

[Noriega] Yes, the women's battalion is named after her. We have a women's training center called Rufina Alfaro. That center is located in Panama Province near the center of the Panama Canal.

[Vergara] I believe the president of the Panamanian Electoral Tribunal is a woman. She is the one who announced the annulment of the elections.

[Noriega] Exactly, Mrs Yolanda Pulice. She made that decision. We only have to check the videotape. She is the one who ruled the roost. You are a journalist; you pay attention to small details. The people who sat around her when she read the decree were very quiet. She made one of them speak. Mrs Pulice told that person: Now, it is your turn to speak. She is the one who wears the pants.

[Vergara] She is the one who sets the course?

[Noriega] Yes.

[Vergara] General, how did you feel about the annulment of the elections?

[Noriega] It was frustrating. Based on recommendations by friendly countries and international organizations that felt this was the solution, we...[does not complete thought]. We went ahead with it because it was the legal date set for political change. We honestly felt that this was the solution, even though there were two, rather three times when we could have suspended the elections for various reasons. First, as a result of the economic aggression, we did not have enough money for an election. The elections were held with much sacrifice. Second, when we discovered the U.S. citizen with all the sophisticated interference equipment and the videos of what was going to happen during the elections—when they would make the charges of fraud, when they would call on the people to take to the streets. They had the equipment to jam every television and radio station. Third, when the United States released the information about the \$10 million. There were times, prior to the election, to suspend them. However, we did not.

It was frustrating because the government candidates, particularly, and the opposition candidates carried out a good campaign despite all that was going on. It was frustrating because they psychologically suggested that the government would commit fraud. The government tried to make everything as clean as possible to show that there would be no fraud. However, the politicians did not realize that it was all a game, a feint to maintain a quote clean unquote position so that they could quickly do all that they did.

Furthermore, where I voted—and I know who I voted for; I do not know who the rest of the people voted for—my vote never appeared. That says it all. Where I voted, the party I voted for got no votes. [laughter] That is one example of the substantial proof of the machinery for fraud that was imposed.

There is a package—I will send it to you later—that the State Department uses. It is an election game called bullets and ballots. The game tells you...[does not complete sentence]. For example, the one that I will give you deals with the upcoming elections in Guatemala. At that time they already had their plans for the Panamanian elections. They had already drafted their strategy for interference.

We have endured real psychological pressure—psychological pressure that has turned into executive pressure; furthermore, this pressure has been exerted with cynicism. The minute the U.S. President said that even if we won the election he would not accept the outcome it meant the fraud was already set up and they were going to win three to one. All indications revealed the fraud had already been set up. He did not do this with any other country that had elections.

[Vergara] General, what is the solution? There are two forces; there is the issue of a national liberation struggle; there is interference; on 1 September, you will be facing a constitutional problem; what is the solution?

[Noriega] The fraud, corruption, impositions, increase in the number of military forces, and decrease in the number of civilians are all a result of military interference and economic aggression by a foreign country.

Anatomically speaking, a foreign substance in the body causes something; it can cause a pimple, pus, or hematoma; and all this causes a fever. But you cannot cure this fever with an aspirin or injections; you can give all the injections you want, but until you remove the foreign substance from the body, you will not be able to break the fever. That is the same thing that is happening here. The economic aggression, military interference, and psychological pressure represent the foreign body, and you cannot hold elections if this foreign body is still present. You cannot hope to have political harmony if you do not remove the meddling judge first—remove that judge who is saying: Go on, go on, I am going to help you. Meanwhile, some people continue to wait for the power the foreign body will give them. The solution must thus be a political one, among Panamanians—a solution without the presence of a foreign body. After this is done, the Armed Forces will be committed toward guaranteeing and supporting this solution. It will not be the other way around; the Armed Forces cannot come up with a political solution, because the political groups will make demands. There have to be negotiations, talks among the parties; the Armed Forces will support this.

[Vergara] One perceives this as a country split between those who say they want a country and those who do not care if they have a make-believe country—in fact, that is what they want. How can this be possible amid an economic aggression, taking into account that the Americans are using a new war concept? In other words, how far can politics go to allow this type of reconciliation? How much does each side need to give?

[Noriega] We return again to the question: Which came first, the chicken or the egg? For example, if third parties had imposed their wills on Colombia at the time of the Bogotazo [violent actions in 1948 triggered by murder of Liberal Party leader Jorge Eliecer Gaitan], when the Liberal and Conservative Parties were having problems, and had exerted pressure to help the Conservative Party or the Liberal Party, there never would have been a solution. The solution was reached by the parties in conflict.

Why do other countries have such solutions; for example, in Argentina? Why? Because there is no country that is directly interested as a third party. Why is there no third party? Because these countries do not have a canal; they do not have the strategic bases. That is Panama's problem. Panama's problem is that a country, as a third party, has its strategic and military future at stake. That third-party country wants to place Panama's future in the hands of Juan Bamba ["Juan Lips," referring to the U.S.-accepted Panamanian Ambassador to Washington Juan B. Sosa], because Juan Bamba is going to be their docile president, their nonnationalist president. As human nature goes, Juan Bamba also wants power, and he wants it even if he has to sell his soul to the devil. This is the phenomenon that is happening here in Panama.

[Vergara] General, is decolonization in stages without a liberation war possible?

[Noriega] We have faith and hope that it can be done. We feel that since God was born in this area, that is the way it is going to be. [laughter] [passage indistinct]

[Vergara] How do you feel deep down, in your innermost self?

[Noriega] Ever since I was a student I have been reading about the sufferings of this Republic. Panama began its life as a Republic with a traitor, Bunau-Varilla, and has continued with a number of interventions. We were born in Dracula's castle. In Dracula's castle, [words indistinct]. Those two factors resulted in the birth of civilian and military men who reacted and learned about reality based on action and reaction, cause and effect. If we recall the year 1925, when there was the tenant struggle and the president back then called for the invasion of U.S. troops to quell rebellious tenants [passage indistinct].

[Vergara] How do you feel about this liberation struggle? How do you feel about playing the role you have had to play?

[Noriega] I feel (?motivated). There are times when I feel frustrated, but there are more motivations than frustrations. If this were not the case I would have dropped the struggle. However, you will find poor people, peasants, children, asking me to continue [words indistinct]. They give you [words indistinct]. We get thousands of letters from the United States. Thousands of letters from people who send us money; things like that, little things that let you know that the Panamanian cause is not [words indistinct]. The people are sensitive. Governments can make mistakes, can yield as a result of diplomatic pressures, as a result of international political interests—but not the people.

[Vergara] [Words indistinct] sometimes when one hears the things that are said about you, you cannot help but say: That man must be killed. How do you feel about all the charges made against you?

[Noriega] There are all sorts of charges being made, each more ridiculous than the first. Morbid and ridiculous charges that cannot offend you because they end up making you laugh. If you were to ask me to answer to a charge, I would not even answer. The very nature of the charge destroys it, invalidates it. It is all part of the psychological warfare they will use against any Latin American leader. It had been used previously in another dimension—when there was no cable television, when the press was restricted, when the radio stations...[sentence not completed]. If you look back in history you will see that the system was used against [former Argentine President Juan Domingo] Peron and against [General Omar] Torrijos. The same system was used against other Latin American leaders whose names I cannot recall at this moment. This is all part of a plan. For example, the frozen asset plan is being implemented against other countries [words indistinct].

Here in Panama they experimented with psychological warfare; they experimented with economic aggression and with diplomatic juggling. That is the triangle they experimented with. In the history of all the Latin American countries you will find that they will implement any of these plans because they have already experimented with them. You must remember that the United States acts according to what it learns in laboratories. Vietnam was a laboratory to test weapons, food, clothes, and medicine. North American morale was defeated in Vietnam, but much was learned from the material tests that were run on the elements of war.

They have taken advantage of the situation to disinform. It was only logical. We do not blame this on anyone in particular. We understand the system. Once you understand the system, the plans, and the doctrine, then you will see that the rest can all be analyzed.

Ritter: No Rapprochement Under U.S. 'Aggression'
PA1306012189 Panama City Televisora Nacional
in Spanish 2342 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] There can be no rapprochement to resolve the Panamanian crisis as long as the U.S. economic aggression

against Panama continues. This statement was made by Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter.

[Begin recording] [Ritter] Panama has reiterated some of its principles at the OAS. It has said that a formula for a rapprochement must be sought and that this formula cannot be secured or result in a real and lasting solution as long as the U.S. economic sanctions are maintained. Panama stated this position very clearly at the OAS.

The OAS foreign ministers said that if a second opportunity were granted, it could result in a rapprochement among Panamanians. Panama welcomed the OAS mission the first time it came, and there is no reason for rejecting it this second time. Panama supports the OAS mission and the work it will be carrying out here.

[Reporter] Are there plans for a meeting with the OAS mission foreign ministers during this second trip?

[Ritter] Since they are my colleagues, I talked with them individually when they arrived. When they visit the president, as I am sure they will, I will be at the president's side. Subsequent meetings between the OAS mission foreign ministers and me will depend upon the talks and the work they decide to carry out, because they may prefer to hold further talks with the opposition political parties and forces.

[Reporter] Mr Minister, yesterday Cuban President Fidel Castro told his Panamanian counterpart, Manuel Solis Palma, that the Panamanian problem, the political crisis in Panama, is a problem for the Panamanian people. What do you think of this statement?

[Ritter] It is a reaffirmation of a very Latin American principle—that no one should interfere in the domestic affairs of another state; that there can be no meddling by any country or group of countries in the domestic affairs of another state. This is a position that Cuba has supported for a long time. Cuban President Fidel Castro has reiterated this principle on many occasions. He has also reiterated Cuba's solidarity with Panama. We, of course, welcome this statement by a man who enjoys much prestige in Latin America, a man who has expressed an extraordinary solidarity with our country and who has defended not only Panama but also principles that are very important for all the peoples of Latin America. [end recording]

McGrath Terms U.S. Sanctions 'Unjust'
PA1206231389 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1554 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Panamanian Archbishop Marcos McGrath today characterized as "unjust" the economic sanctions that the United States has imposed against Panama for more than 1 year.

In statements to a local radio station, the prelate said that the U.S. measure adversely affects the poor in Panama and "is not just within an international legal framework, either." [passage omitted]

McGrath has rejected government media accusations that the Catholic Church has not condemned or commented sufficiently on the U.S. "aggression." He also denied that the church is "biased" against the government and allied with the Panamanian opposition, which the Episcopal Conference has said won the 7 May elections that were annulled 3 days later.

"The church is not biased against anyone. It is biased against certain attitudes," the prelate asserted.

On various occasions in recent weeks, McGrath and other church leaders have criticized the government and the Panama Defense Forces for their role during the 7 May elections and for the bloody events that followed, and this has resulted in harsh attacks on the church from government-controlled media.

The church has issued strong protests against these accusations and even threatened excommunicating the offending parties for the attacks from progovernment newspapers and radio and television stations, which have called McGrath "an accomplice of the opposition" and a "CIA agent," among other things.

Solis Palma on OAS, Talks With Castro, Qian
PA1206145789 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1310 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Panama City, 12 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Upon his return from Cuba, where he met with Fidel Castro, Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma yesterday rejected the participation of the United States in a dialogue to solve the Panamanian crisis.

Solis added that any formula of understanding must be preceded by a lifting of the economic sanctions imposed by the U.S. Administration on Panama during the last 13 months.

The Panamanian president was invited by Fidel Castro to visit Cuba, where Solis spent the entire weekend. Solis and Castro discussed the Panamanian crisis and the relations between Panama and the United States.

Solis arrived at a Panamanian military airport 1 hour after the members of the OAS mission of mediators arrived in Panama for the second time. The OAS mission returned to Panama to seek "formulas of agreement" to solve the current Panamanian crisis.

Solis Palma stressed that any formula of understanding "must come from the Panamanian people themselves." Solis added that "there is no sense" in U.S. participation in the negotiations promoted by the OAS.

Upon his arrival in Panama yesterday, Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Cordovez, who is one of the OAS mission members, stressed that "the Panamanian crisis has domestic and foreign factors." That statement was interpreted as an indirect reference to the United States.

In answer to questions about that topic, Solis Palma said: "No one has called on it (the United States) to participate in any negotiations; I believe such participation would mean acceptance of the meddling of another country in the domestic affairs" of Panama.

Solis stressed: "The United States has never fulfilled the necessary conditions for becoming an arbiter."

He added: "In addition, as long as the United States does not lift the economic sanctions ordered against our regime, an understanding will be very difficult to reach."

The Panamanian president indicated the OAS is presently subjected to "great pressure," which I hope it will be able to withstand."

Concerning a dialogue with the opposition, Solis asserted that he does not know "whether those who are interfering (the United States) will allow them to be open minded."

Imitating Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega, Solis added that "it usually is better to talk with the owner of the circus than with the clowns."

The OAS mission, which comprises OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares and Ecuadoran, Guatemalan, and Trinidadian and Tobago Foreign Ministers Diego Cordovez, Mario Palencia, and Sahadeo Basdeo, respectively, will meet—beginning today—with Solis Palma; General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces; and the progovernment and opposition parties.

Concerning his visit to Cuba, the Panamanian president said that "some guidelines" to establish cooperation between Panama and the government of Havana were established and that the visit was a "very fruitful experience."

According to Solis, Fidel Castro told him, in reference to the Panamanian crisis, that "countries must be left free to control their own destinies without foreign interference."

As for his conversations with PRC Foreign Minister Quian Quichen in Havana, President Solis said their meeting was "truly accidental."

According to Solis, Qian expressed "his firm and determined rejection of U.S. interference" in Panama's domestic affairs.

Discusses State Trip to Cuba

PA1206172089 Panama City LA ESTRELLA
DE PANAMA in Spanish 12 Jun 89 pp 1, B-4

[Text] Panamanian President Manuel Solis Palma has returned to the country visibly impressed by his experiences in Cuba. During a brief 60-hour visit Solis experienced many things regarding the various projects carried out in that fraternal country. Those projects have led to the remarkable progress Cuba can show the world today despite a blockade for over 30 years.

Upon his arrival at the Panamanian Air Force airport Solis held an impromptu news conference with local and foreign reporters, during which he stated that he met with Commander Fidel Castro several times. Solis Palma said Castro wanted to encourage him because of the crisis Panama is experiencing. Castro recalled that Cuba has survived 3 decades of blockade. Solis Palma said Castro added that thanks to the enormous efforts made by the Cuban people, Cuba has low rates in mortality, disease, unemployment, prostitution, and drug addiction. Cuba also has statistics showing that, in Cuba, elementary, high school, and university education and the housing, agricultural, and traffic systems are very good. Solis Palma summarized the most important aspects of his visit to Havana and specified details about the hospitals he visited and about his visit to the Los Naranjos Genetic-Livestock Center, which was founded 25 years ago. Cattle are subjected to a special treatment at that center to improve their products. That enterprise produces large quantities of milk byproducts, including cheese, through a scientific treatment that increases those products' nutritional value. Those products are then offered to the community to maintain a balanced diet.

Solis Palma also visited other production centers and the Blas Roca Brigade, which is in charge of building facilities for the Pan-American Games to be held in Cuba in approximately 18 months.

Replying to questions about the specific results of his visit to Cuba, President Solis Palma said bilateral agreements regarding trade, aid, and technical assistance in the fields of agriculture, farming, housing, education, and health could be signed. He added that subsequent meetings among representatives of the two nations will have to be held to finally sign those agreements.

Solis Palma confirmed a press agency report received in Panama regarding his meeting with PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, with whom he exchanged viewpoints.

During the news conference, Solis Palma told reporters that both China and Cuba reiterated their friendship and willingness to strengthen their bonds with Panama and that those two nations stated that "the domestic problems of each country must be discussed and solved independently and sovereignly by each country without foreign interference."

Baena Soares: 'Much Optimism' on OAS Mission

PA1306003189 Panama City Televisora Nacional
in Spanish 2339 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] OAS Secretary General Joao Baena Soares arrived at 2030 last night at Omar Torrijos International Airport. He was greeted on arrival by Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter. During a brief meeting with local and foreign media, the OAS official said only that the OAS mission has returned to Panama to seek support from all the political forces in the country in the search for an agreement to resolve the crisis.

Baena Soares said there is much optimism that the OAS special mission will help find a positive way out of the crisis in Panama.

Baena Soares was accompanied by Panamanian Ambassador to the OAS Jose Maria Cabrera.

Government Officials Meet Soviet Diplomat

PA1206215589 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
in Spanish 8 Jun 89 pp 1, 8

[Text] Agricultural Development [MIDA] Minister Luis Olmedo Gonzalez and Deputy MIDA Minister Dr Luis Ivan Gonzalez met with Yuri Vislovov [name as published], charge d'affaires of the USSR Embassy to Costa Rica, to establish new mechanisms for agricultural cooperation. The meeting was also attended by Agricultural Development Bank Manager Alfredo Macharaviaya; Inrenare [Institute of Renewable Natural Resources] Director Cesar Montenegro; representatives from the planning and economic policy ministry; representatives from the commerce and industry ministry; and representatives from the Agricultural Cooperatives. During the meeting, the distinguished visitor was briefed on the country's needs in order for him to convey that information to high ranking officials in his country and ultimately to establish links in the search for a solution to the economic and trade blockade imposed by the U.S. Government.

Among the basic needs mentioned by the MIDA minister are: financing, agricultural equipment and machinery, seeds, fertilizer, agro-chemical products, and technical assistance in specific sectors, such as the agro-industrial.

Seeking financing, Inrenare Director Cesar Montenegro delivered to Mr Vislovov a copy of the Forestry Action Plan, by which the government seeks to preserve the environment.

Vislovov said Panama could export coffee, bananas, cocoa beans, and rice. He also noted the possibilities for opening a 5-year line of credit at low interest rates. The Soviet diplomat promised to convey these needs [to his government] so as to, in the near future, begin trade relations in the agricultural sector.

Trade Institute Director on Trade With USSR
PA1206194089 Panama City Domestic Service
in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Text] Concerning the negotiations Panama is conducting with other countries, Panamanian Foreign Trade Institute Director Luis Barletta said Panamanian barter with the USSR would consist basically of fruits. Panama would offer some products to the USSR, and the USSR would pay for the goods or exchange elements necessary for production. Let us listen to Luis Barletta's comments regarding this:

[Begin Barletta recording] We could export to the USSR the products I have mentioned earlier—products such as bananas, sugar, and coffee—but not seafood, because I do not think they consume large quantities of that. These are three products we may be exporting, three products that are, as I mentioned to you, traditional exports. I do not think we are ready to begin exporting nontraditional products such as tropical vegetables and fruits and other vegetables, because the USSR is too far away for us to supply such products. However, I think we can export traditional export products. The Soviets are already exporting Lada vehicles to us. Since the USSR is a country that avoids flight of capital and promotes barter or compensated barter—through which we could export bananas in exchange for elements necessary for production: agricultural machinery, power plants, or fuel. They have many products that are very attractive to us because of their quality and price. We can take advantage of this.

We could also have what we call triangulation. I have already mentioned an example: We export bananas to the USSR; they supply agricultural machinery to Spain; and Spain supplies us with agricultural elements necessary for production. This kind of operation could also be implemented, not only with EEC countries, but also with Romania or Yugoslavia, which are also very eager to participate in the development of Panama. This kind of operation, which we must begin to implement, is an entirely new world, a new awakening to Panamanians, because we did not require this previously, since we were used to the easy way of exporting to traditional U.S. markets. The government and the private sector have now been forced to come up with more initiatives and be more creative, positive, and constructive at this time of national hardship. We must take advantage of these new sources, offering specific and realistic opportunities to Panama.

This plan with the USSR is based on a trade agreement that is already approved and published. The agreement includes establishing consulates, which will make the implementation of this trade agreement more feasible. Moreover, a high-level delegation will travel to the USSR—which is very, a very important step, because this will enable us to discover the possibilities of barter with the Soviets. I have always maintained there are no ideologies

in international trade; proof of this is that when they trade, socialist countries behave as any capitalist country would do to earn money; there is no difference.

Moreover, their trade operations are conventional; they are just like the operations Panama and other countries may carry out among themselves. [end recording]

Church Communique on Domestic Situation
PA1206225589 Panama City PANORAMA CATOLICO
in Spanish 11 Jun 89 p 1

[Communique issued by the Episcopal Secretariat of Central America and Panama in San Jose, Costa Rica, on 8 June]

[Text] 1. The Council of the Presidency of SEDAC (Episcopal Secretariat of Central America and Panama), an organization that consists of 60 bishops from these six nations, met at the Central Seminary of San Jose, Costa Rica.

2. After studying the current social and religious situation in these countries, we confirmed that in each of them there are lights and shadows. We intend through our study to enhance the former and eliminate the latter through the power of Christian hope.

3. We noted the following positive developments:

- A remarkable rise in religious vocations
- Efforts to renew evangelization, which should be carried out with new methods and increased fervor
- Fervent pastoral initiatives to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the beginning of the evangelization process on our continent
- The increasing use of the media for the church's evangelization process of the church
- Much attention being paid to important pastoral areas, such as the family, the youth, the poorest sectors of our societies
- Promotion and defense of our peoples' Christian heritage, which was forged by the Catholic Church from the beginning of the evangelization process itself

4. We observed the following negative developments:

4.1 Violence and political and democratic instability still prevail in our countries.

We recognize and are grateful for the achievements made as a result of the Esquipulas II peace agreement that was signed by the Central American presidents in Guatemala in August 1987 and the subsequent meetings that have spared Central America from the horrors of a regional war and its resulting bloodshed. We, however, respect the

wishes of the overwhelming majority of our peoples, demand that the Central American presidents comply with the letter and spirit of all the points contained in the peace agreement so that a true and lasting peace can finally be achieved and consolidated in our countries.

4.2 The anguishing situation the fraternal Republic of Panama is currently experiencing because of the annulment of the recently held presidential elections and the continuation of a political situation with all the characteristics of an iron dictatorship.

The most disturbing consequences of that situation include the following:

a) The uncertainty regarding the transfer of power in September so that those who assume power are those elected by the people in free, democratic, and honest elections. Those elections should be fully respected by the government and the electoral authorities.

b) The government control of the media, which prevents large groups of the Panamanian population from exercising their right to freedom of speech.

c) A very bad economic situation, which is mainly the result of the current political situation, has worsened as a result of the U.S.-imposed sanctions, which have adversely affected the most needy.

In view of this regrettable situation, the Council of the Presidency of SEDAC endorses the statements made by the Panamanian Church demanding respect for freedom,

concern for the safety of citizens, and the creation of appropriate conditions for the free exercise of representative democracy and the full enjoyment of each human being's inalienable rights.

We implore the OAS not to abandon the Panamanian people during these difficult times. We urge the OAS to adopt a firmer and more determined attitude in the case of Panama by demanding an end to the dictatorship, the consolidation of democracy, and the free exercise of public freedoms, especially the freedom to vote.

There is less and less time to find a solution, so rapid OAS action is necessary.

We beseech the Virgin Mary, the star of the evangelization process and the queen of peace, to give our peoples her maternal protection so that by enjoying peace, freedom, and security, we can develop spiritually and materially.

Central Seminary, San Jose, Costa Rica, 8 June 1989

1. Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo, archbishop of Managua, president of the Nicaraguan Episcopal Conference
2. Prospero Penados del Barrio, archbishop of Guatemala, SEDAC president
3. Roman Arrieta Villalobos, archbishop of San Jose, president of the Costa Rican Episcopal Conference
4. Marcos G. McGrath, archbishop of Panama
5. Hector E. Santos, archbishop of Tegucigalpa, president of the Honduran Episcopal Conference
6. Romeo Tovar Astorga, bishop of Zacatecoluca, president of the Salvadoran Episcopal Conference
7. Jose Dimas Cedeno, bishop of Santiago de Veraguas, president of the Panamanian Episcopal Conference
8. Jorge Mario Avila Del Aguila, bishop of Jalapa, SEDAC secretary

Argentina

Alfonsín Announces 30 June Resignation

PY1306024689 Buenos Aires Domestic Service
in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Speech by President Raul Alfonsín from Government House in Buenos Aires—live or recorded]

[Text] Argentines: Serious problems force me to address you tonight. I feel the need to address all Argentine citizens as if I were addressing each one of you personally.

Almost 6 years ago, I was legitimately elected by the Argentine people to occupy a position that carries the greatest honor, but also the greatest responsibility, to which any Argentine can aspire.

This is not the time to review, not even concisely, my term in office. I will do so at the right time. Now, I will only explain the decision I have adopted for the benefit of all.

On 14 May, the Argentine people confirmed their unfaltering decision to live in liberty. Through elections that may be considered exemplary, the Argentine people expressed their will. The vote return cannot be questioned or debated. This will be the first time in 60 years that one president who has been democratically elected by the will of the people will install another president who has also been elected by the people. Furthermore, this will be the first time in Argentine history that two such presidents do not belong to the same political party.

The time for this institutional government to adopt measures necessary to solve the current difficulties is too short. The remaining months in office will not be enough to enable this administration to successfully solve the urgent problems that, unresolved, can only create further suffering for all.

The need to preserve the republican institutions, to defend them from the risks existing in the unique opportunity of transferring power democratically, and the seriousness of the current economic situation call for strong decisions that cannot be delayed.

Our endeavor to solve these problems would be pointless if it threatened all we have achieved so far. If this endeavor demands that the president make personal decisions aimed at overcoming the great difficulties, he must adopt them immediately. This becomes more necessary still if these difficulties create anxiety in the people, create insecurity in our homes, and make us feel as if a typhoon had hit the country.

We cannot minimize the seriousness of the current crisis, or the effect this crisis is having on Argentine society—further still, if we take into consideration that the president-elect has repeatedly said that he is ready to be installed.

We cannot overlook the efforts made by all who are working for the continuity of the democratic system. We cannot forget that a lot has been done in an attempt to organize national life during the period between the elections and the installation of the elected officials. We realize, however, that these efforts have not been enough to solve the current crisis. No president has the right to ask the people to suffer indefinitely, if he realizes that his personal sacrifice may save the people from further suffering. Realizing that, all possible solutions must be analyzed and flexible decisions aimed at solving situations that would be otherwise insoluble must be adopted.

All Argentines, particularly the poorest strata of our society, have already realized that there is no more time for this administration to adopt the necessary measures to continue governing the country. The seriousness of the socioeconomic crisis calls for strong and permanent measures. An administration that is about to leave office can do no more. Therefore, any delay in adopting the necessary measures would simply bring more suffering to the people.

With this conviction, the president-elect and I have tried to find formulas to govern, and we even received support and understanding from legislators. The reality pressing him and me demonstrates that even this was not enough; much less now that the actual or presumed details of the economic policy being drawn up by the future authorities have been released.

The information leaked is of such a nature that everyone will understand how it will affect the operation of the markets, which are already unstable.

I believe—and, in due time, I proposed this idea to public debate—that the reform of our Constitution would permit us to match our country's institutional times with the specific political times that we were to face later.

Our current reality is pressing us, however, to use the current Constitution and laws to face the need to solve the new problems for which the Constitution is the only and foremost tool available to us.

We cannot indulge in running the risk of believing that the national Constitution is an obstacle to problems that are troubling us.

Under these circumstances, and implementing what I thought was the best procedure, I tried to reach an agreement with Dr Carlos Menem to speed up the transfer of power so that he could assume the Presidency, implementing the voter's will expressed at the ballot boxes, without violating the Constitution.

In this spirit, this morning I sent to the president-elect an agreement, which I signed, on the strengthening of democracy. This agreement was drawn up based on the last conversation we held.

In this agreement, I pledged the following:

1. To facilitate the immediate approval of the economic bills that the future administration will propose.
2. To instruct my ministers to immediately provide detailed reports to the new administration's designated ministers on current projects.
3. To ratify my decision that a joint delegation to negotiate with the international credit organizations be created immediately before or after I transfer power.
4. To thoroughly investigate all administrative acts conducted during my administration. So far, this document has been signed only by me. I hope, however, that Mr Menem will also sign it.

I hope that there will be no more allegations that the acceleration of the presidential succession is being obstructed by the current president.

The decision I have made is the only possible way out within the framework of the Constitution and the laws, and I am sure that it will contribute to restoring the necessary framework to face, as soon as possible, the economic problems that are the center of the crisis we are suffering.

I have given instructions to the appropriate officials to implement as soon as possible the mechanisms to install the candidate elected as president of the Argentine people on 14 May 1989.

Those procedures will be fulfilled and I have decided to resign as of 30 June 1989 as president of the Argentine nation, the post with which the people honored me on 10 December 1983.

I hope that there will be no speculation on this decision: It is a matter of strictly exercising the political responsibility of placing the country's well-being before anything else.

In addition to this personal decision I am now announcing to you, I am aware that the president is only the visible face of a group of men and women who jointly undertake the serious responsibility of governing the country, without sharing the honor that wearing the presidential sash represents nor aspiring to receive public recognition.

I wish to express my deep gratitude to all those people today, especially to the vice president of the nation, who has not hesitated in supporting me in this decision.

I cannot think of the appropriate words to fully express my gratitude to the Argentine people who have made the effort, undertaken the responsibility, and played the role that these years in which we have constructed democracy and social stability have required. This, in truth, is the end of my speech.

I hereby resign my presidential investiture, but I do not decline my responsibility nor am I giving up the struggle which from now on I will continue to carry out from wherever I may be and as long as God gives me the strength to do so to achieve the objectives I have repeatedly reminded you of since 1983: establishing national unity; strengthening justice; consolidating domestic peace; ensuring public safety; promoting general well-being; and safeguarding the benefits of liberty for us, for our future generations, and for all the men in the world who wish to live on Argentine soil.

Good night and thank you for everything.

President-Elect Menem Reacts to Resignation

Transfer Date 'Impossible'

PY1306041489 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS
in Spanish 0335 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] La Rioja, 12 Jun (NA)—President-elect Carlos Menem tonight said that he believes it is "impossible" to comply with President Raul Alfonsin's request that he be installed on 30 June. A communique said the date "was final" and that the decision was "unilaterally" adopted by the Executive Branch.

La Rioja Government spokesman Adrian Freijo said "there is no other way out," power will be transferred on 30 June, but not to Menem. Eduardo Menem, acting Senate chairman, will be the one installed on that day. Freijo did not announce, however, when Carlos Menem will be installed.

Terms Resignation 'Surprising'

PY1306035189 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0339 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] La Rioja, 13 Jun (TELAM)—President-elect Carlos Menem issued a communique tonight stating that the announcement made by Raul Alfonsin about resigning on 30 June is "surprising, to say the least, because it is made at a time in which the delegates of the current president and of the president-elect are discussing the conditions under which the transition would take place, including the date of the transfer of power."

Menem made no statement to the media and left Government House without talking to journalists. The communique was read by Adrian Freijo, La Rioja government press under secretary.

The ministers appointed by Menem who were at Government House left by the governors private entrance without making any statements.

Menem 'Not Ready' for 30 Jun

PY1306041989 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0352 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Jun (TELAM)—Rodolfo Terragno tonight said that President-elect Menem told him that he is not ready to take over the government on 30 June as announced by President Alfonsin.

Late tonight, after returning from La Rioja where he went as President Alfonsin's envoy to meet with Menem, Terragno explained that Menem agreed with the points suggested in Alfonsin's letter, but he rejected the resignation date.

However, Terragno did not discard the possibility of reaching some agreement in the next few days.

6-Point Statement Released

PY1306044289 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
0415 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] La Rioja, 13 Jun (TELAM)—The following is the text of the 6-point declaration released after midnight here by President-elect Carlos Menem after President Raul Alfonsin delivered his speech.

"1. The attitude of the president in resigning effective 30 June is surprising, to say the least, because it is made at a time in which the delegates of the current president and of the president-elect are discussing the conditions under which the transition would take place, including the date of the transfer of power.

"2. Although the president has recognized that it is impossible for him to continue to govern, it is also true that the handling of the transition, which was agreed upon by the current president and the president-elect, required a number of acts before the actual act. In the face of the president's announcement, however, those requirements are impossible to fulfill.

"3. The act to which the president referred in his message was prepared unilaterally and without consultation, including the date for the transfer of power, which is now a fact.

"4. In addition to any act or agreement, it is necessary for the president and his party to publicly commit themselves to approving the necessary legislative measures in order for the new government to carry out its economic and social programs.

"5. The president-elect and the people who will help him in his administration are aware that they will take over the government in its worst crisis in history, but they are willing to do so with firmness, realizing that they have the support of the people.

"6. The people and history will judge the attitude taken in the face of a chaotic situation that was not created by the political party that emerged victorious in the 14 May elections."

Peronists, UCR Negotiating 'Political Pact'

PY0906211289 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS
in Spanish 1114 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (NA)—Former Public Works Minister Rodolfo Terragno and future Interior Minister Eduardo Bauza held negotiations yesterday on an early transfer of power from Raul Alfonsin to Carlos Menem. Terragno and Bauza have been entrusted with designing a "political pact" to help the Menem administration pass its first measures in Congress. Three important factors gave the meeting a sense of urgency.

Radical Civic Union (UCR) sources have stated that they believe a food shortage is almost certain and that there may be a cut in food supplies. They believe, however, that a cut in supplies of medicine may have even more serious consequences.

They added that the recent "social violence" in Venezuela was not caused by a shortage of food but by a shortage of medicine.

The financial situation is another pressing factor. Banks continue to limit withdrawals. According to UCR experts, this situation cannot continue for more than 1 week without having an unpredictable impact on the financial market.

A high-ranking UCR leader, who refused to confirm whether there are banks with financial problems, said: "The present situation cannot last forever because it is blocking the entire economic transaction system." It is believed that the new measures issued by the Central Bank will resolve this situation.

The legal tool through which an early transfer of power can be implemented has become a secondary issue. Many UCR leaders (except for Reynaldo Vanossi) believe it is important to take into account the opinion of the future justice minister, Julio Oyhanarte. He believes that the Bignone Law [not further identified] can be upheld in case of an early transfer of power.

It must also be taken into account that in case of an eventual early transfer of power, Menem cannot rely on the congressional majority he won in the elections until 10 December. Therefore, Menem will need a political pact through which the UCR bloc will approve a "legal package" to overcome the current hyperinflation and undertake the productive revolution he proposed during the election campaign.

Bauza and Terragno (as well as other negotiators working with them) will have to arrive at an understanding over the measures "to be approved" by Congress.

A UCR leader said as an example: "We will approve the budget law, but we will not approve an amnesty law."

While it is up to the leaders to overcome the stalemate in the negotiations, those close to Raul Alfonsin have asserted that the president will not take a single step "on his own" to resign and that it is up to the Peronists to ask him to resign. In turn the Peronists have stated: "This is a decision President (Alfonsin) must make. There is nothing we can do about it." This is the same position Menem has taken in the past few days.

For his part, UCR Deputy Cesar Jaroslavsky, who, according to those close to Alfonsin, has clearly expressed the president's thoughts, said: "The president-elect must ask the president to leave power. This is the only way out."

Carlos Menem, however, has reasserted that an early transfer of power is Alfonsin's exclusive decision. Regarding public opinion, Menem said that there is a general consensus that the current government must leave power as soon as possible. He said that "80 percent of the people support this idea."

Negotiations on Early Transfer of Power Noted

PY1206212189 Buenos Aires Domestic Service
in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Jun 89

[Excerpts] Given the statements made by future Economy Ministry officials about the ungovernability of the country, the government is considering the possibility of a unilateral decision transferring power by the beginning of August.

Meanwhile, intense negotiations are being carried out to pass laws to establish the date on which Carlos Menem will assume power. The subjects are currently being discussed today among President Alfonsin's personal delegate Rodolfo Terragno, future Interior Minister Eduardo Bauza, and provisional Senate President Eduardo Menem.

Several congressmen from different parties are also trying to reach an agreement to pass the laws Menem wants approved in order to assume power before 10 December. Menem does not want the Radical Civic Union Party [UCR], which controls the Chamber of Deputies, to obstruct his draft bills. [passage omitted]

A top government official has said that the Executive Branch may set a date for the transfer of power. He said that UCR congressmen are willing to approve Peronist socioeconomic bills in Congress to give Menem's administration some credit. UCR congressmen, however, have said they will not simply approve just any Peronist initiative. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Reporter] The future justice secretary today mentioned 17 August as a possible date for the transfer of power.

[Eduardo Menem] I have said that the power transfer could take place during the 1st half of August. I do not think that dates have to be mentioned until we definitely agree on some measures. We cannot give dates until we consult the future economic officials, because some measures must be adopted at the beginning or end of a month. Therefore, the date issue must be fully studied. However, I think that a logical date would be during the 1st half of August.

[Reporter] You mean before the 17th?

[Menem] Yes, I think it should be before the 17th.

[Reporter] When will you reach an agreement regarding the approval of laws?

[Menem] That is what we are discussing with Deputy Bauza and former Minister Terragno, because the new government will need some new laws as soon as it assumes power so that they are effective as soon as the new government begins. This is what we are discussing with Alfonsin's personal delegate.

[Reporter] What about the Armed Forces subject? Italo Luder has taken amnesty for granted.

[Menem] The military subject is not part of our negotiations; it is not on our agenda in our talks with Terragno and Bauza. However, without a doubt it is a subject that concerns all Argentines and, given this atmosphere of socioeconomic crisis, we hope that the military problem is solved appropriately, because a military problem can worsen the situation.

We thus hope that the UCR government will expedite the process to solve the military problem, which has already gone on too long.

[Reporter] Senator, Carlos Menem's agenda today foresees a meeting with General Felix Bonet, commander of the III Army Corps. Is this the beginning of a round of talks with the Army commanders?

[Menem] No. I do not know why they are meeting, but I think that contacts with the Armed Forces commanders are always positive because the president-elect must remain informed on the military situation. [end recording]

Menem Appoints Officials for Future Government

Minister, Media Heads Named

PY0906171789 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
1247 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (TELAM)—President-elect Carlos Menem this morning nominated Roberto Dromi as the future public works and services minister. Names of other members of Menem's team were also disclosed.

Jorge Rachid will be the future press and dissemination secretary, the head of a new secretariat that will be directly subordinate to the president of the nation. The duties of this secretariat will be similar to those of the former Secretariat of Public Information (SIP).

"The state communications apparatus," namely, Argentina Televisora Color (ATC), the TELAM news agency, LRA Radio Nacional [Buenos Aires Domestic Service], TV channels 11 and 13, and all news media "currently controlled by the state" will come under the jurisdiction of the new secretariat.

Humberto Toledo, spokesman for the president-elect, explained that Menem wants it "clearly understood that TV channels 11 and 13 will be privatized as soon as possible during his administration."

Leo Guinsburg will be the future chairman of the Federal Committee for Broadcasting (COMFER), while Hugo Heguy will take over as president of the TELAM news agency.

New Secretaries Appointed

PY0906175889 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] [Argentine President-elect Carlos] Menem has appointed Deputy Oscar Fappiano to occupy the post of Interior Ministry secretary. Fappiano will thus assist the future interior minister, Eduardo Bauza.

Omar Fassi Lavalle, a young man, will be the tourism secretary under the next Justicialist administration.

After meeting with Carlos Menem this morning, Julio Oyhanarte confirmed that he will be the justice secretary in the future Justicialist administration.

Economic Secretaries Cited

PY1006030089 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] The designated Economy Minister Miguel Roig today completed his economic team by appointing Oscar Saggese as foreign industry and trade secretary and Eduardo Curia as economic negotiations secretary.

Guido di Tella was named technical coordination secretary; Rodolfo Frigeri, finance secretary; and Felipe Sola, agriculture, livestock, and fisheries secretary.

Alberto Albamonte was named foreign trade secretary.

Foreign Ministry Officials Named

PY1006032489 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2136 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (TELAM)—Humberto Toledo, spokesman for President-elect Carlos Menem, has announced two new appointments for positions in

the Foreign Ministry: Mario Campora will be secretary for multilateral and special affairs, and Raul Carignano will be secretary for Latin American affairs.

Toledo reported these appointments to the press before entering the Justicialist Party headquarters at 240 Callao Street in Buenos Aires at 1815 today.

Menem Confirms Appointments

PY1006032089 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2210 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (DYN)—President-elect Carlos Menem today confirmed that neurosurgeon Raul Matera will head the Technical and Scientific Secretariat, while Horacio Pacheco will head the Human Development and Family Secretariat.

The announcement was made by Menem's spokesman Humberto Toledo, who added that Pacheco is currently heading the Lomas de Zamora branch of the Human Development and Family Secretariat.

ATC Chairman Tabbed

PY1006030489 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2324 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 9 Jun (DYN)—Mario Gavilan, current director of the news and special events features for television channel 2, will be the chairman of Argentina Televisora Color (ATC) during the Justicialist administration.

The appointment was announced by Menem's spokesman Humberto Toledo.

Communist Party Issues Communique on Violence

PY0906143089 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2131 GMT 8 Jun 89

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Jun (TELAM)—Communist Party Secretary General Patricio Echegaray today stated that "groups made up of radical military officers and intelligence services members are carrying out a psychological campaign" to promote violence.

In a communique, Echegaray explains that those groups have "disseminated a wave of false rumors of clashes among neighborhoods while undoubtedly it is those groups that have promoted armed incidents and interfered with communications in places like Rosario."

Echegaray said that the incidents have been caused by "members of the intelligence services and by radical military officers and their civilian supporters, not by the people and the leftist militants who were arrested at their houses or while leaving leftist party offices."

Communist leader Eduardo Sigal called for a price freeze beginning 1 June and an increase in the basic salary to 20,000 australes. He also asked that the payment of taxes and services be suspended and that an "uncontrolled" raise in rents be prevented.

Sigal warned that "these measures should be implemented urgently to prevent a worsening of the situation and panic among the people.

Brazil

USSR's Vorotnikov Arrives on Official Visit

PY1206210489 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO
in Portuguese 12 Jun 89 p 2

[Text] Brasilia—Supreme Soviet Vice President Vitaliy Vorotnikov arrived in Brasilia yesterday in response to an invitation extended to him by the Brazilian Congress. During a brief interview at the air base in Brasilia, Vorotnikov—who arrived aboard an Aeroflot plane—greeted the Brazilian people and noted the significance of the exchange of congressmen of the two countries as a means to strengthen the political dialogue between the two nations.

In the presence of Brazilian Senate President Nelson Carneiro (PMDB [Brazilian Movement Party] for Rio de Janeiro) and Chamber of Deputies Vice President Inocencio Oliveira (PFL [Liberal Fronta Party] for Pernambuco State), who went to meet him, Vorotnikov asserted that the meeting "will help to strengthen relations between the Soviet and Brazilian people, to peace and progress."

The Soviet representative's agenda for today includes a meeting with Foreign Minister Abreu Sodre; a meeting with Senator Nelson Carneiro; another one with Chamber of Deputies Chairman Paes de Andrade; and one with Federal Supreme Court President Jose Neri da Silveira. Vorotnikov will meet tomorrow with President Jose Sarney and will hold a news conference in the morning.

On 14 and 15 June, he will visit Sao Paulo Governor Orestes Quercia and then meet with Sao Paulo businessmen. On 16 June, he will visit Rio de Janeiro, where he will meet with local businessmen. Vorotnikov will visit Petropolis on 17 June.

He will leave for Moscow the following morning.

Sarney on Lack of Congressional Cooperation

PY0906130689 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia
Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] On his Chatting by the Radio program today, President Jose Sarney spoke about the progress attained by the government on environment protection. He said that we must be careful, not just of pessimism on environment issues but on all problems.

[Begin Sarney recording] We are gradually lifting the price freeze, yet still exercising great control to avoid exacerbating the situation or causing chaotic prices.

Sincerely, I acknowledge that we have not managed to live up to the expectations of controlling the inflation that is fueled by an orchestration that I cannot prevent, since behind this orchestration there are many people making money from it.

I cannot say that Congress has totally cooperated. Congress increased expenses, created new fiscal incentives, created state companies, rejected a provisional measure for reducing public personnel, and now is threatening to automatically increase the minimum salary as prices increase, a point that is specifically prohibited by our Constitution. Congress is thus ruling out the possibility of helping the poorest.

Congress cannot choose to turn against the minimum salary earners since they are the poorest. This administration has stressed the need to increase the national minimum salary, which used to be the lowest in Latin America. [end recording]

According to President Sarney, the national minimum salary is about to reach \$100.

Gen Cruz Released After 8-Day Imprisonment

PY1006191789 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television
in Portuguese 1600 GMT 10 Jun 89

[Text] General Newton Cruz today left the Planalto Military Command where he was imprisoned for 8 days. Gen Cruz was detained for having made offensive remarks about the president of the Republic and the Army minister.

The Planalto Military Command is located in the Army Ministry in Brasilia.

Gen Cruz went straight to his daughter's home after his release. Gen Cruz, who looked well and happy, said:

[Begin recording] It is not a matter of deciding whether I would do the same thing again. I have always acted in accordance with my own conscience and will continue to do so. [end recording]

Colombia

Government Minister Denies Links to Traffickers

PA0906135689 Bogota Inravisión Television Cadena 1
in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 89

[Text] President Virgilio Barco agreed to talk with newsmen yesterday about the rumors circulating throughout Colombia that drug traffickers have infiltrated the government's upper echelons.

The trouble began when General Miguel Maza Marquez [Administrative Department of Security chief] presented several documents to the attorney general as evidence that a plot had been organized to kill him. However, of all of the questions newsmen asked President Barco, there was one that drew a tremendous amount of attention because it referred directly to links between a cabinet minister and the Cali Cartel. Listen to the newsmen's question and the president's response.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] [Words indistinct] a paramilitary [words indistinct] several government officials, including a government [word indistinct], among others.

[Barco] I do know [word indistinct]. [end recording]

This newscast made some inquiries regarding the government minister. All this is based on an insinuation contained in an anonymous note that was among the papers Gen Maza delivered to the attorney general's office. The anonymous note suggests that the government minister treats the Cali Cartel deferentially.

This serious accusation, without a signature, is nevertheless the subject of an exhaustive investigation, which explains the president's vague response.

This newscast learned that the government minister knew that he was mentioned in the anonymous notes of [former Army Captain Luis Javier] Wanumen and [Jose Joaquin] Rivera several days before they were made public. Government Minister Raul Orejuela Bueno has asked the attorney general's office to conduct a thorough investigation because, he says, he has nothing to hide and the slanderous charges stem from an anonymous note. Reporter Abel Dario Restrepo spoke to the government minister today about this situation:

[Begin recording] [Restrepo] Mr Minister, let us take this bull by the horns. An anonymous note has generated much speculation. Have you given the Cali Cartel special treatment at the Council of Ministers?

[Orejuela] [Words indistinct] that an inquiry be made at the Council of Ministers or any institution of which I am part in an official or private capacity. I do not know them or anybody like them.

[Restrepo] Are such infiltrations of the Council of Ministers possible?

[Orejuela] First, I do not think that these matters are discussed by the Council of Ministers that frequently. I do not think so. I do not see how they could be.

[Restrepo] There has been a feeling of public uneasiness since Gen Maza mentioned the papers that were seized from Wanumen. There is concern that drug traffickers exert pressures on the upper echelons of the government. Do you think there is a basis for such fear?

[Orejuela] I do not think so. What people are saying is that one of these anonymous notes mentions me. I am not involved in any such activity and neither is any other minister. There is nothing to indicate that such a situation exists. Personally, I despise anonymous notes. One has to have evidence, and I am not going to ask for an investigation. The government has the means to conduct one. Simply put, I speak my mind with a clear conscience, and I am not going to invoke my personal record of 30 years of public service. No, absolutely not. I am not the least bit concerned because in my case this peace of mind does not result from a poor memory.

[Restrepo] Pardon me, Mr Minister. To conclude, do you believe that the upper echelons of the government have had pressure exerted upon them by the drug traffickers?

[Orejuela] I do not think so. The fact is, this is out of my jurisdiction. Based on what I have seen in my work, I have no knowledge of any such thing whatsoever, whatsoever.

[Restrepo] Thank you very much, Mr Minister. [end recording]

Guerrero Paz Defends Orejuela

PA1006033689 Bogota Inrvision Television Cadena 1
in Spanish 0000 GMT 10 Jun 89

[Text] Defense Minister General Manuel Jaime Guerrero Paz issued a communique today flatly rejecting a report by some media about papers seized from former officer Luis Javier Wanumen Camargo. The documents allegedly tied Government Minister Raul Orejuela Bueno to the Cali Cartel. The defense minister said the reports were biased, and he asserted that recent actions against the Medellin Cartel were not prompted by the government minister but by state security agencies.

Paraguay

Foreign Minister Returns From U.S. Trip

PY1206153589 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish
12 Jun 89 p 10

[Excerpt] "It was a very interesting mission during which I made important contacts at the OAS and at the United Nations as well. The UN Development Fund (UNDP) promised to aid us with a \$2.5 million nonreimbursable loan and with a similar loan for \$1 million."

Regarding the explosive situation in the Republic of Panama, Paraguay endorsed a consensus decision to extend the duties of the OAS special mission that will go back to Panama to seek a political definition to the country's democratization process, which is the goal of the OAS.

Paraguayan Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana made these remarks yesterday afternoon, shortly after returning to the country from Washington and New York on a Varig flight. [passage omitted]

Electoral Court Releases Election Results

PY0806160889 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
8 Jun 89 p 3

[Text] The Central Electoral Board (JEC) yesterday released the official results of the 1 May and 4 Jun general elections. According to these results, the Authentic Radical Liberal Party (PLRA) will keep 21 seats in the Chamber of Deputies and 11 in the Senate. The Febrerista Revolutionary Party (PRF) will have just one seat in the Senate and two in the Chamber of Deputies.

The composition of the legislative branch's membership, however, may still change. The Constitution states that Congress is the final judge of who its members should be.

If the request that is to be submitted by the PRF for the annulment of several electoral records is approved, the final results might be changed.

PLRA member Francisco de Vargas keeps his seat because his party obtained 153 more votes than the PRF. If this number of votes were to decrease, PRF member Euclides Acevedo might get the third seat for his party in the Chamber of Deputies. This would be the only change in Congress.

The JEC has already delivered the results of the general elections to the legislative branch. The Congress must now approve or reject those results as soon as the advisory committees make their decisions.

Regarding the electoral records from the District of Primero de Marzo, these were delivered to the JEC early yesterday after the PLRA leaders complained about delays.

The JEC president said that no electoral records in the 4 June election have been annulled. He added that they have all been signed by the balloting table officials.

Rodriguez Appoints New Defense Under Secretary

PY1006191989 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
10 Jun 89 p 10

[Excerpt] Decree No 1021, which was signed by President Andres Rodriguez and Defense Minister General Adolfo Samaniego, retired, appoints Brigade General Eduardo Ramon Sosa as defense under secretary. He replaces Air Force Brigade General Hugo Adolfo Escobar Anzoategui. [passage omitted]

Government Creates National Health Council

PY1006184989 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish
10 Jun 89 p 12

[Excerpts] The National Health Council was created yesterday through Decree No 1024. According to the decree, the council will help reduce costs, improve the quality of service, and prevent a waste of effort and energy in rendering health services. The decree adds that the council was created to help draft national health and welfare policies and to coordinate the activities of the public and private health sectors. The council will also assist the Health Ministry in the implementation of policies. [passage omitted]

The government has appointed Jeronimo Irala Burgos, Alejandro Encina Marin, and Jose Antonio Moreno Ruffinelli as members of the National Codification Committee of the Labor and Justice Ministry.

Uruguay

Foreign Minister Returns From OAS Meeting

PY1006191589 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish
0930 GMT 10 Jun 89

[Text] Foreign Minister Luis Barrios Tassano returned from the United States a few hours ago. Barrios said that on 19 July the legitimate winner of the Panamanian presidential elections will assume power and that the special OAS mission made up of the foreign ministers from Bolivia, Ecuador, and Trinidad and Tobago has successfully ended its mission in Panama.

[Begin Barrios recording] [in progress] ...the result is that the special OAS mission has been extended to help reach an agreement between the government and the opposition. Prospects are reasonably optimistic, according to what I read. The mission, which has informed the OAS on the results of its visit, must find a final solution between 10 June and 19 July and implement Panama's effective redemocratization on the transfer of power to the legitimately elected candidate.

There are a few important things that should be stressed: One of these is the U.S. cooperation in finding a definitive solution acceptable to Panama—and I insist on this fact because it rules out the possibility of foreign intervention in Panama—thus consolidating the principle of nonintervention and bringing new vigor to the OAS as an appropriate instrument to peacefully solve conflicts among Central American countries or among different sectors in these countries, as in the case of Panama. [end recording]

[Reporter] Does this transfer of power entail the withdrawal of General Noriega?

[Barrios] The Panamanian people will decide on this issue on 19 July.

[Reporter] What will happen on 19 July, Minister?

[Barrios] The Nicaraguan revolution is commemorated on 19 July. But the date for the Panamanian presidential installation was not chosen for that reason, but because several foreign ministers will have to attend ceremonies in France on 14 July [sentence as heard]. [end recording]

Economy Minister on Brady Plan, Negotiations
PY1206151589 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1422 GMT
11 Jun 89

[Text] Montevideo, 11 Jun (EFE)—Uruguayan Economy and Finance Minister Ricardo Zervino said in Montevideo today that "Uruguay is closer than any other Latin American country" to reducing its foreign debt through the Brady plan.

Upon his return from New York where he met with Uruguayan creditors, Zervino said Uruguay made important progress in the negotiations, "though not as much as Mexico," a country that has been discussing its foreign debt for over 2 months.

The minister said, however, that "banks have certain reservations" about the Brady plan and that some items "are not very clear."

Uruguay is one of the countries with a debt greater than \$6.2 billion for a population of only 2.96 million.

Zervino told the press that the main reason for his trip to the United States was "to follow developments regarding our foreign debt and to negotiate a substantial reduction of our debt service with commercial banks."

Uruguay uses a third of its total annual earnings of \$1.2 billion to pay the interest on its foreign debt.

Zervino stressed that if interest rates are reduced, Uruguay "will be able to improve the level of domestic investment and to reduce inflation."

The cost of living in Uruguay increases almost 70 percent a year.

Regarding the Brady plan, Zervino said the plan is not a set of rules establishing benefits.

The minister added that the plan consists of mechanisms "that allow nations such as Uruguay, which have a certain level of indebtedness and are implementing economic reform programs, to obtain resources and reduce their foreign debt or debt service."

Contract Trade Totals With Iran Reported
PY0906040989 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish
27 May 89 p 1

[Text] Uruguay has purchased \$35 million worth of oil from Iran. Products sold to Iran reached even higher levels. The transition was performed through the system of simultaneous independent contracts, Foreign Trade Director Isidoro Hodara, who took part in the negotiating delegation, told EL DIA.

Hodara said the results were "reasonably positive." The delegation was headed by Economy and Finance Minister Ricardo Zerbino. In addition to Hodara, the delegation also included officials from the National Administration of Fuels, Alcohol, and Portland Cement (ANCAP), the Banco Republica, and private sector representatives.

The sales made to Iran surpassed \$40 million. Contracts for the sale of 10,000 tons of beef totaling \$20 million and 60,000 tons of rice worth \$21 million have already been signed.

Iranian and Uruguayan businessmen are still discussing contracts for the sale of 3,000 tons of butter, 2,000 tons of powdered milk, and 15,000 tons of rice.

Government To Sell Treasury Bonds in Japan
PY1206140989 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1902 GMT
10 Jun 89

[Text] Montevideo, 10 Jun (EFE)—The Economy and Finance Ministry today reported that the Uruguayan Government has decided to issue public debt bonds in yen for sale on the Japanese stock market.

The resolution, which was signed by President Julio Maria Sanguinetti, authorizes the issuance of "treasury bonds" for 2.5 billion yen, equivalent to \$17.5 million.

The first Uruguayan treasury bonds will serve to attract resources and to channel Japanese aid toward Latin America.

World Bank Grants Loans Totaling \$146 Million
PY1006170489 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish
0930 GMT 10 Jun 89

[Text] The World Bank has granted Uruguay a \$140-million loan for financial reorganization and a \$6.5-million loan for technical assistance. Fifty percent of the \$140-million loan will be used to reorganize some banks which the Banco de la Republica wishes to sell to the private sector.

Central Bank Reports Fiscal Deficit Figures
PY0906152089 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish
2 Jun 89 p 11

[Text] The Central Bank has released figures on the fiscal deficit and the deficit of state enterprises for 1988. The deficit is 127.171 billion new pesos, which equals \$355 million. This figure equals the interest on the foreign debt, which was paid on time by Economy and Finance Minister Zerbino. This just shows that if there was no interest on the foreign debt to pay, there would have been no deficit.

The government accounts show some imbalances. Regarding the fiscal deficit, the accounts of the central government into which the public debt is charged shows a deficit of 53.278 billion new pesos while the nonfinancial public sector shows a surplus of 8.299 billion new pesos despite the payments on the foreign debt made by the state commercial and industrial enterprises.

Therefore, the public enterprises are not showing a deficit, but a surplus. Uruguayans know this because they have felt the impact of the increase in public tariffs. State enterprises have made real profits and have also contracted new debts to carry out investments which they could have made with their own funds. One particular case is ANCAP [National Administration of Fuels, Alcohol and Portland Cement], which accepted a \$30-million loan from the World Bank to remodel the La Teja refinery. This project was necessary but could have been achieved using its own financial resources, which Minister Zerbino wants to allocate to the national revenue.

Regarding the high deficit of 82.192 billion new pesos by state enterprises for the 1988 fiscal year, this is due exclusively to the payment of the foreign debt. In addition to the financial aid to the BHU [Uruguayan Mortgage Bank] to cover external loans, there is also the payment of treasury bonds to purchase portfolios and other payments to commercial banks and multilateral credit organizations.

In other words, the fiscal deficit is not caused by inefficiencies in the public sector and its solution does not lie in the cutting of internal expenditures; collected taxes are enough to cover all the expenditures and investments of the public sector. The deficit exists because interest on the foreign debt is being paid.

Health Minister Reports AIDS Statistics
PY0906145289 Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish
31 May 89 p 7

[Summary] Health Minister Raul Ugarte has issued a quarterly report stating that 11 AIDS cases have been registered in the country in the last 3 months, of which 2 were fatal.

The report also says that since 1983 a total of 61 people have contracted AIDS, that 358 are AIDS carriers, and that 30 have died.

Venezuela

Metropolitan Police Strike Continues

Police Protests Reported

PA1206194689 Paris AFP in Spanish 1912 GMT
12 Jun 89

[Text] Caracas, 12 Jun (AFP)—Members of the Metropolitan Police (PM) of Caracas will continue to strike, despite the military siege on its garrisons. Members of the PM said today they will continue to strike until the core of their conflict has been solved; that is, until PM officers assume command of the institution.

Over 1,000 policemen marched today to the Attorney General's Office to protest the violations of their human rights.

They protested over the fact that a general of the militarized National Guard was named commander of the PM, and they pointed out that Article 121 of the Constitution prohibits persons from holding simultaneous military and civilian commands, except for the president of the Republic.

Demands, Negotiations Noted

PA1306041389 Caracas Venezolana de Television
Canal 8 in Spanish 0010 GMT 13 Jun 89

[Text] The Metropolitan Police (PM) situation has almost returned to normal. Officials of this state security organization, the Armed Forces, and the Executive Branch drew closer to an understanding today.

Division General Gonzalo Bajares assumed office as PM chief this afternoon and visited the police headquarters early in the morning to speak amiably with his staff to ensure that Caracas police patrols would be resumed. The new police commander is aware of the assistance that must be given to every policeman. He believes, however, that dialogue should be the primary means of finding a solution to the problem. He asked the policemen to put on their uniforms and to do their duty as they have for years.

[Begin Bajares recording] The policemen have many legitimate demands that we have to consider. We should work with the policemen, improve their social status, raise their salaries, increase their social security benefits, and improve their promotion system by taking into consideration their aspirations to become officers. There are a number of things that should be done, but these things can only be done by talking and working together.

Nothing will be achieved amid chaos because this country cannot afford to slip into anarchy. This is a serious, disciplined country. Venezuela demands greater and greater sacrifice from the policemen and from everyone else. [end recording]

Nevertheless, the policemen decided not to return to work unless the military left the police headquarters.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] What do you policemen demand of the new chief?

[Corporal Jesus Gonzalez] First, soldiers and National Guard members must vacate all police garrisons at once. Second, the 19 inspectors who were detained by the DISIP [Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services] must be released.

[Unidentified PM officer] I want to call on all the PM members of the nine zones to come to this command and defend it because it belongs to us and not to the Army or the National Guard. It is ours. We do not want National Guard officers commanding the police. We want a civilian commander and inspectors. We do not need the Army or the National Guard because we are intellectually prepared to command the police. [end recording]

The National Guard continued to patrol in Caracas, although some policemen went back to work determined to contribute to harmony between officers and subordinates. An agreement between the PM officials and commanders is necessary so the policemen can go out to patrol the city. Policemen have only demanded that the Army and National Guard officials leave the police installations. A short-term agreement is expected.

In addition, approximately 1,000 PM members in street clothes visited Attorney General Ramon Escobar Salon, who promised to mediate to find solutions to the problems affecting the institution. The policemen demanded that the dismissed officers be reinstated immediately, that the National Guard vacate the PM premises, that policemen no longer be detained, and that their homes no longer be raided. The policemen met with the attorney general, who presented his position.

[Begin Escobar recording] 1. A penal first-instance judge will be asked to go to the DISIP headquarters and to familiarize himself with the cases involving PM officials or former officials. 2. The Supreme Court of Justice will be asked to intervene to settle the disagreements between political and administrative authorities. [end recording]

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